

The German Tribune

Hamburg, 8 April 1969
Eighth Year - No. 365 - By Air

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

C 20725 C

Russia's grip on international communism begins to falter

Every Soviet leader since Lenin has seen as one of his main taks the establishment and consolidation of both the political and ideological leading role in international Communism of the CPSU. The Kremlin praises this allegedly unselfseeking Soviet policy to comrades in other countries as a selfless major contribution to the consolidation and strengthening of international communist unity.

To begin with this worked fairly well. In both the Comintern and the Cominform the Soviet Communist Party possessed a means of exercising control over other Communist Parties. Nearly all foreign comrades saw Moscow as the centre of the communist world and the repository of ideological purity. Stalin called and they all came — to the last man.

In those days the tenet of limited sovereignty for others did not exist but the practice did. Stalin assumed the right to pass judgment on Communists all over the world. A fair number of Communists who visited Moscow in Stalin's days disappeared for over in the wide expanses of the Soviet Union.

Since then fundamental changes have taken place in the international communist movement. A pointer to the changed situation is the years of effort Leonid Brezhnev has put into preparing for a new international Communist summit.

After a great deal of palaver the conference was supposed to take place on 25 and 26 November last but the occupation of Czechoslovakia had made such a bad impression on many fraternal parties that the Soviet Union felt it better to postpone the meeting.

Czechoslovakia was not the only difficulty the Soviet conference planners had to face. In the months preceding the invasion First Secretary Brezhnev had to face the fact that he would hardly succeed in arranging a conference that could be expected unconditionally to agree to international communist unity on the Soviet pattern.

Moscow's main ambition, condemnation of Mao Tse-tung, was particularly frowned on by many foreign Communist Parties. So for some time preparatory commissions have been struggling to find what is in fact no longer a very high common denominator for a new world conference of Communist Parties.

Not long ago it was agreed to hold the conference in Moscow on 5 June but this does not by any means mean that the difficulties are over. It is clear from the communiqué issued by the latest preparatory conference that unanimity has yet to be achieved on the main document to which the summit is to give its seal of approval.

This document has had to be sent once more to the central committees of national Communist Parties, which means that a further session of the preparatory committee has had to be scheduled for 23 May.

Continued on page 2

IN THIS ISSUE

POLITICS Page 3
Coalition parties prepare for election battle

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM Page 5
Reform of local authorities essential for re-planning

BALLET Page 6
John Cranko's new production of Shakespeare's 'The Taming of the Shrew'

CONSUMER GOODS Page 11
The profitable consumer battle for enhanced beauty

TRANSPORTATION Page 13
Buyers demand greater car safety on the road

Russia strives for quiet in Asia

Moscow's note to China containing an appeal to resume frontier talks, broken off in 1964, and respect existing frontiers appears to be an attempt to prevent possible escalation after military confrontation on the Ussuri and the war of words between the two propaganda machines.

At the moment there is no way of telling whether the Russians reckon China will accept the offer, but the Soviet leaders are pressing for peace and quiet in Asia because they will have realised in Budapest at the latest that the great power conflict they have made public to the world at large is not benefiting their policy towards Communist Parties. It also limits Soviet foreign policy leeway.

Recalling in the note the fate of Japanese aggressors against Soviet territory in the Far East is doubtless intended to deter Peking from further alleged aggression. This move could be the result of anxiety that China might intend to create lasting tension by launching guerilla warfare on disputed frontiers in Asia, all of which, it could be interpreted, are the result of colonial conquest.

The statement that official Chinese maps lay claims to areas "in which at present nearly all the peoples of Asia and even Europe live" would seem to be intended to suggest that the Soviet Union is the first target of Chinese imperialism that might also represent a threat to other Asian countries unless it is brought to a halt now.

The Soviet note thus gives ground for speculation whether the Soviet government merely wants to end a series of incidents or has issued a warning of further-reaching conflict and is at the same time trying to prepare world public opinion for this eventuality.

(DIE WELT, 31 March 1969)

Eleven years ago the late President Heuss (right) visited President Dwight D. Eisenhower. The two men are here seen at a reception given for Theodor Heuss by Ike on 5 June 1958. Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger and Berlin Mayor Klaus Schütz represented the Federal Republic at President Eisenhower's state funeral.

(Foto: dpa)

A saddened world bids General Eisenhower adieu

Washington commands the world's stage. America's sorrow at the death of ex-President Eisenhower is shared everywhere. Heads of state and government or their representatives from countries allied to or friendly with the United States have joined the ranks of those filing past the coffin of Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The procession ranged from General de Gaulle and Lord Mountbatten to President Shazar of Israel and the Shah of Iran. It also included Chancellor Kiesinger of this country, who was on the point of flying across the Atlantic to pay homage on a previous occasion.

Before finally being dead and buried an era, certainly an epoch of American history, is being subjected to sombre pomp and elegiac recollection.

The America of President Eisenhower, the peace and progress of the naive fifties, internal consolidation after the exhaustion of war, the containment of opposing forces in world affairs — the entire administrative and social background that made the conservative Mr Eisenhower such a sympathetic personality is now part of the past.

We Germans need not stand apart. This country made peace with General Eisenhower a long time ago. At the beginning it was none too easy for either side despite the logic of coming to terms when scrutinised in the cold light of raison d'état. Yet initial hesitation eventually had a beneficial effect on the community of interests between this country and the United States, for which firm foundations were laid in the fifties.

General Eisenhower did not dissociate himself from this fortunate turn of events. Without giving the slightest suspicion of blatant opportunism Ike did his bit towards cementing relations between Bonn and Washington.

Admittedly, the political bulwark of the eight-year Eisenhower era appeared, from this side of the Atlantic and certainly from this country, to be Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

The key role attributed to Mr Dulles had nothing to do with the Cold War. President Truman and Secretary of State Acheson were forced into cold war. What characterised John Foster Dulles was the energy with which he managed to force Soviet inclinations to expand into the straitjacket of political realities.

Frankfurter Allgemeine
ZEITUNG FÜR DEUTSCHLAND

General Eisenhower cannot really be rated as a genius in the art of warfare and he did not appear to be a great statesman either but Ike was uncommonly gifted at cooperation, friendliness and friendship, optimism and encouragement. This was his real forte.

At times his political performance has been underestimated by intellectuals but Theodore H. White's *The Making of a President* contains a fine tribute to John F. Kennedy's predecessor:

"Eisenhower," he writes, "radiates an uncanny power. He cheers people up . . . Americans needed only to see Eisenhower to feel good . . ." Few of the politicians attending his funeral could claim the same of themselves.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 31 March 1969)

HOME AFFAIRS

No advantage would come from recognition

NEGATIVE TRAIN OF EVENTS WOULD ENSUE

It appears that the German Question will be one of the issues of the coming election campaign. It is possible that voters who plump for one of the major political parties in September will also have to decide on varying methods of approaching East Berlin.

The Free Democratic Party (FDP) has already announced that if it were to be given the responsibility of government it would drop the old claim to the sole right of representation. Within the Social Democratic Party (SPD) two regional bodies in south Hesse and Schleswig-Holstein want the Soviet Zone to be recognised as a sovereign state.

This means that the discussion about recognition of the Soviet Zone has got beyond the stage of a mere game. It threatens to become a disputed issue of Federal politics.

In itself this situation would not be a misfortune In the last resort it is not the task of an opinion researcher but of the electorate to make known whether or not the citizens of the Federal Republic have come to terms with the division of this country. This is a political decision of the first rank.

But for this very reason the supporters of recognition must not be allowed to play down or ignore the importance and implications of the policy which they advocate. Usually they maintain that recognition of Ulbricht's state would merely be a "formal act," which would simply involve codifying long-established "realities."

The vocabulary of those who support recognition is becoming more and more like the language of a swimming teacher who tells his pupil that he really should get over his fear of jumping into the water since the water is not really all that cold. But how cold is the water in fact?

This article will not deal with the numerous private problems which would arise for many Federal citizens, especially those who have relatives on the other side of the border, if the Soviet Zone were consistently treated as a foreign country. Nor will it deal with the status of West Berlin which would only be worsened. It will not even mention the constitutional obligation laid down in Basic Law which prescribes a policy aimed at *reunification*, or the dream of a united, democratic German fatherland. Dreams count for little in the Federal Republic, as many people have already had to accept. This article will simply deal with *Realpolitik*.

Recognition of the Soviet Zone as a sovereign state would open up a train of events which would only have negative effects on the Federal Republic. Political procedures in the other part of this country would in future be protected by the Federal Republic in a way which the dictatorial Ulbricht régime could not hope to better.

Powerlessly (and if possible even lending assistance) this country would have to sit back and watch the Socialist Unity Party (SED) gaining admittance to all international bodies so as to continue its aggressive activities, which are opposed to all reforms and above all directed against the Federal Republic, on international level.

Surely, it is bad enough that up to now the Soviet Union has exploited every opportunity during meetings of international organisations to accuse Bonn of being the "enemy of peace?" Does this country want to do its best to ensure that the same accusations are made in the German language?

At this point people usually object that if the Federal Republic recognised Ulbricht he would no longer be the same Ulbricht, the Soviet Zone would cease its propaganda campaign against this country, border traffic would be normalised, our fellow-countrymen would be allowed more liberties and eventually a programme of reforms like the Prague Spring of 1968 would be initiated.

But anyone who propounds this argument simply proves that he has no sense of political realities. In the long run a dictator is never satisfied if his ever increasing demands are met. A glance at the Federal government's policy on the German Question during recent years shows that many of East Berlin's demands have already been fulfilled but not the slightest degree of rapprochement has been achieved as a result.

Thus East Berlin itself provides the weightiest argument against recognition of East Berlin. If a régime clearly indicates that for its part it is not prepared to make any concessions but remains irreconcilable and aggressive, then it cannot expect to be encouraged to pursue such a line.

Recognition of this kind of régime would not only discourage those who are subject to its rule but also those people within the régime and in Eastern Europe who might eventually be willing to introduce reforms. This country should not make concessions to the wrong people.

The Prague Spring last year indicated the type of communist leaders with whom, under certain circumstances, cooperation would be possible. East Berlin played a particularly active part in the military invasion of Czechoslovakia.

To make concessions to East Berlin on the question of recognition at this particular point in time could be regarded as a premium for invasion. The timing of a discussion on recognition of the Soviet Zone has been badly chosen — both despite and because of the forthcoming Bundestag elections.

Günter Zehm

(DIE WELT, 25 March 1969)

CDU called upon to deny recognition demands

On 24 March the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) called upon the Social Democratic Party (SPD) leadership to dissociate itself from the demands made at the south Hesse and Schleswig-Holstein SPD conferences for the establishment of normal relations between the Federal Republic and the Soviet Zone.

CDU spokesman Arthur Rathke said in a press release, "The SPD leadership should make it clearer than has so far been the case that it does not approve of these demands — demands which contradict the government's declared policy and the official SPD policy."

On the same day the SPD press service announced that ideas propounded by the south Hesse district organisation would certainly be debated at the extraordinary party conference in Bad Godesberg in



April. The principles approved by the majority of the party at this conference would then determine the policy of the whole party and would be binding on all Social Democrats.

The SPD press release emphasised that the SPD has constantly expressed its willingness to have talks with East Berlin representatives. But the party has also clearly stated that no one could expect the SPD to regard the Soviet Zone as a foreign country.

On Monday the re-elected chairman of the south Hesse SPD, Hessian Finance Minister Albert Osswald, stated that the party conference had not demanded unconditional recognition of the Soviet Zone. Delegates had supported normalisation of relations between "the two nations." To this end a specific list of political issues had been drawn up on which representatives from Bonn and East Berlin should strive to reach agreement through negotiations.

(DIE WELT, 25 March 1969)

Europe must approve of reunification

Herbert Wehner, Minister of All-German Affairs, speaking at a Social Democratic Party (SPD) conference in Saarbrücken on 23 March, said, "The time has passed when it could be seriously assumed that reunification of the divided German people would be guaranteed or brought about by third parties."

Wehner went on to say that politicians must make sure that "the major powers do not merely talk about the military misuse of the seabed and the far side of the moon, but also about a modus vivendi for coexistence between the two parts of Germany." The starting-point for improving relations should be a "number of partial regulations."

Genuine reunification would only be possible if the European nations in the East and West were agreed that a reunited Germany would be acceptable and would not upset the balance of power.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 24 March 1969)

No policy change on German Question

The Federal government will stick to its established policy on the German Question. This was emphasised by the Foreign Affairs Ministry in Bonn.

The Ministry thereby expressed its opinion on speculation arising from remarks made by State Secretary Duckwitz at a press conference in New Delhi. A Soviet correspondent asked Duckwitz about the validity of the Hallstein Doctrine. The State Secretary emphasised that exceptions were made to this doctrine if this was in the interests of peace and détente.

(Hamburger Abendblatt, 22 March 1969)

Recognition favoured

At recent party conferences in Tönning and Frankfurt two regional organisations of the Social Democratic Party (SPD), the Schleswig-Holstein and south Hesse branches, demanded that recognition of the Soviet Zone should be included in the SPD's election programme.

Both organisations are regarded as belonging to the radical or left flank of the SPD. It is unlikely that delegates to the SPD national conference in the middle of April will accept these demands, the implications of which go far beyond the principles laid down at the 1968 party conference in Nuremberg.

Nonetheless, these demands are characteristic of current trends aimed at eliminating taboos concerning foreign and German policy. The motions put forward by both organisations are clearly intended as part of a peaceful policy of understanding.

It is arguable whether the timing of these demands is particularly fortunate since in the recent past all the Federal government's attempts to engage in objective discussions with East Berlin have been brusquely rejected by the Socialist Unity Party (SED).

But party conferences do not only have to deal with topical political issues, they must also provide a forum for discussion as part of the search for future courses of action. The significant point about these two motions is doubtless the introduction of a broadly-based discussion on the question of future action.

Bonn's official standpoint was again made clear when Minister of All-German Affairs Herbert Wehner said in Saarbrücken that an improvement in relations between the two parts of this country should be achieved by "a number of partial regulations." Ulbricht provided an answer before Wehner had even expressed this view: "Recognition of the German Democratic Republic is the basic issue." The attitude on the other side of the Berlin Wall has not changed one iota.

It would be fundamentally wrong to construe the demand for recognition of the Soviet Zone as a crime against the democratic principles of freedom and the law, as the Silesian Association recently did. Neither the Schleswig-Holstein SPD chairman Joachim Steffen nor the south Hesse district chairman Olaf Radtke can be accused of flirting with Eastern dictators. However, for years Steffen has put forward the view that improvements for people on both sides of the border can only be achieved if negotiations are held with the powers-that-be in the Soviet Zone.

The Hesse motion goes further than the one passed by the Tönning conference. The Frankfurt demand speaks explicitly of the Soviet Zone as a sovereign German state enjoying equal rights. This formulation, which is not shared by the Schleswig-Holstein motion, immediately raises the question of the extent of the sovereignty of the two German states.

It is constantly forgotten that especially as regards German policy the sovereignty of the Federal Republic is also limited. According to Article 5 of the German Treaty the three western Allies are still responsible for decisions relating to all matters concerning the whole of this country.

We live in an age of revolutionary changes. Conflicts and tensions escalate more quickly than proposals and means to deal with them are developed. This fact obliges all political powers to review their actions and the principles on which they act.

Clear, frank statements on the political situation are needed. The decisions reached at Tönning and Frankfurt could serve this purpose. At the same time they belie the political astrologists who repeatedly claim that citizens of the Federal Republic long ago gave up worrying about the German Question, that they are more interested in maintaining prosperity than in solving our national problems.

Wolfgang Fechner

(Hannoversche Presse, 25 March 1969)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

Reform of local authorities essential for re-planning

The Federal government's latest land report prophecies that "the relative weakness of the northern part of the Federal Republic as regards development is likely to persist until 1980." This applies generally to agricultural areas. If new underdeveloped regions are not to be added to the existing ones then strong, efficient communities must be created in the country.

The Federal Republic is still a country of stunted and small communities. According to figures assessed on 30 June 1967, of a total 24,368 local authorities almost 45 per cent (10,862) involved less than five hundred inhabitants and a further 24 per cent (5,751) less than a thousand inhabitants.

Almost 94 per cent (22,832) of all local authorities had less than five thousand inhabitants. However only a third of the population lived in these communities. The majority of people in this country lived in the 681 municipalities (2.7 per cent) with more than ten thousand inhabitants.

These figures reveal that the geographical structure of local administration has not changed since the agricultural age although in 1968 only ten per cent of the working population were engaged in agriculture. Territorial organisation has not kept pace with the coming of the industrial era.

But small communities will not always be this country's fate. All municipalities have to meet the vital needs of their inhabitants, and requirements increase with the growth of prosperity. No community can escape comparison with the efficiency of private industry. Consequently the demand for greater administrative power is increasing both in towns and in the country.

With the exception of the Saar, all the Federal states are concerned to a lesser or greater extent with administrative and territorial reforms, and the essence of reforms can only be reorganisation of local authorities. According to Basic Law this is a matter for the Federal states to deal with.

In September 1968 replying to a question put by the Coalition parties the Federal government stated that the central legislature was specifically forbidden to try and coordinate the efforts of states to introduce territorial and organisational reforms; strict limits were also imposed on the Federal government's ability to act as a coordinator.

It is all the more pleasing, therefore, that a kind of joint coordination system for reorganising local authorities has developed in the Federal states. The report on reforms in Lower Saxony, which the special committee presented on 19 March, confirms the trend towards uniformity.

Above all the basic idea is uniformity. According to this basic concept, Federal territory is divided into interlocking areas in which central towns have developed. These central towns provide the people in the surrounding area with social, economic and cultural facilities. Town-planners differentiate between small, secondary, intermediate and major centres according to the importance of the central town.

Correspondingly the interlocking areas are graded into the following categories: neighbouring areas which should provide basic requirements (a central school, recreational and sports facilities, doctor, chemist, shopping facilities); intermediate areas which have greater needs to meet; and major areas which should satisfy specialised, increased demands. A neighbouring area should have at least five thousand inhabitants, and an intermediate area more than twenty thousand inhabitants.

Town-planners do not in fact link these interlocking areas with existing administrative divisions. It is clear, however, that the reformers think in terms of territorial structure when it comes to redrawing local authority boundaries. The connection between the various factors involved is obvious.

The second guiding principle affecting territorial reorganisation concerns population density. Large municipalities with a local representative body, an administration and with a unified budgetary, treasury and accounting system are likely to be more feasible in densely populated North Rhine-Westphalia than in the flat countryside of Schleswig-Holstein or in Bavaria.

Nonetheless, it has become generally accepted that a local administration needs to cover at least five thousand inhabitants in order to be efficient. It is better when there are seven thousand or more inhabitants. Schleswig-Holstein, Lower Saxony, North Rhine-Westphalia and the Rhineland Palatinate agree on this point.

According to population density, communities of this size can be achieved in two ways: by merging several communities into one unified community as has happened in North Rhine-Westphalia, or by creating joint administrative institutions (council, local associations) as in Schleswig-Holstein and the Rhineland Palatinate.

In Hesse, Baden-Württemberg and Bavaria small communities are to be preserved within these administrative associations. But North Rhine-Westphalia has demonstrated that all these means of cooperation are transitional stages on the way towards larger, unified municipalities.

Sooner or later reforms will not only eliminate small local authorities but create a unified municipal structure throughout the Federal territory. In the meantime considerable differences in the size of communities may arise from state to state. But this must not be allowed to prevent reforms.

What the government said in its reply to the question submitted by the Coalition parties is true: at the present stage of local authority reform, the differences of opinion are not fundamental. They are largely due to the fact that some states are anxious to introduce territorial reorganisation whilst others — and the tendency increases from north to south — are inclined to be more reserved.

The reforming trend got under way long ago. It is in the interests of healthy local administration throughout the Federal Republic and hence it is also in the interests of communities in Hesse, Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria and the Saar that these states should not continue to lag behind.

Wilfried Hertz-Eichenrode

(DIE WELT, 25 March 1969)

No limitation of states' rights

The Federal government has no intention of restricting the independence of the eleven Federal states by taking over important legislative responsibilities. But it does consider that improved practical cooperation between the government and states is necessary so as to cope with the "stormy changes" in economic, technological and social conditions.

This is the essence of the government's reply, delivered by Minister of the Interior Ernst Benda, to a question on federalism submitted by a large number of Bundestag members.

Without presenting a definite concept of federalism of the future, the government's answer to the Bundestag reveals specific difficulties in federative cooperation which have been encountered to date. The most important points are:

- The Cabinet considers close cooperation between the government and states in the field of education to be essential. It remains to be seen how the government and Federal states will reach agreement in order to implement the recommendations of the Arts, Science and Research Council; the same applies to inter-state cooperation.
- The Federal government regards with anxiety the danger that individual states could jeopardise unified development of a reorganised education system by introducing isolated reforms.
- It is thought that more appropriate holiday dates could and should be introduced in individual states.
- As far as vocational training is concerned Bonn supports still closer cooperation between government and states; special difficulties arise in this respect because the states are responsible for legislation governing the school system but the government deals with legislation covering vocational and extramural training.
- The government feels that it is not sufficient for it to have only general powers vis-à-vis the university system. External and internal university reforms are involved particularly with regard to university constitutions and "the authority of Federal legislation could certainly contribute towards this task."
- For the time being the Cabinet has declined to express its views on whether the problems relating to television dues could be eliminated by transferring the relevant powers from the state authorities to the government.
- In the field of health policy the government feels that the scope of competitive legislative reponsibilities should be widened "in order to solve satisfactorily particularly urgent health problems." For example, the government should be able to institute precautionary medical examinations for specific complaints through law.
- In Bonn's opinion difficulties have arisen in carrying out modern social welfare policies because of restricted legislative powers. The government therefore supports, for example, central legislative responsibility for admittance to the professions connected with social welfare.
- Since in future data processing will simplify and increase the efficiency of public administration, the Federal government thinks it is necessary for certain information to be made available to the government by the states and local authorities.

Claus Dreher

(Münchner Merkur, 26 March 1969)

Disappointment over delays

People living in small communities are deeply distressed about the hitherto unsuccessfull progress of financial reforms. They simply cannot believe that having voted against the compromise presented by the mediating committee the Bundestag is to postpone further action for the time being.

And this is just because the government and the rich and poor Federal states are still arguing about a few points, though local authority financial reform and all the hopes involved in these reforms may be doomed to failure. It was in fact the inadequate financial resources of local authorities which provided the impetus for financial reform years ago.

So executive members of the Federal Republic Congress of Municipalities have again emphasised to the press the financial straits and investment problems local authorities will have to face in 1970 if the financial reform bill is not passed before this year's recess.

No doubt local authorities are also benefitting from the favourable economic situation through higher tax revenue of their own. But quite apart from the fact that this increase of approximately six to seven per cent is considerably less than that received by the government and Federal states, the Congress of Municipalities estimates that staff costs will go up by about nine per cent.

Even if the states increased their subsidies, there would not be large sums available for local authority investment. But, it could be maintained, this fits into the present economic landscape when public authorities are supposed to be putting on the brakes a little.

Nevertheless it must be remembered that particularly in towns projects are under way which cannot simply be abandoned without imposing hardships on the inhabitants. So the government's economic programme does urge local authorities to cut back on spending but only insofar as is possible without neglecting vital needs.

Financial reform does not only involve financial, economic and structural issues; the whole matter is also an important political question, a test-case for the reforming power of democracy in this country and above all for the effectiveness of the Grand Coalition.

If the reform bill is not passed at the last minute, then the Grand Coalition will have to face accusations of having failed. This reproach could still be avoided.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 27 March 1969)

Chancellor hopes to get reforms

Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger intends to fight tooth and nail to get the *financial reforms* through the Bundestag during the current legislative period. He said as much at a Christian Democratic Union (CDU) meeting in Waldshut where he will be standing as CDU candidate in the coming elections.

The local party committee confirmed his candidature over the weekend. Kiesinger said that financial reform did not involve a conflict of interests between the CDU/CSU and the Social Democratic Party (SPD), but between the rich and poor Federal states.

However, in a television interview on 23 March SPD Bundestag secretary Hans-Jürgen Wischnewski blamed the CDU for endangering the financial reform bill. Speaking on *Südwestfunk*, he said the CDU was responsible for the fact that a major reform put forward by the Grand Coalition government had suffered a severe setback during the previous week.

(Frankfurter Rundschau, 24 March 1969)

BALLET

John Cranko's new production of Shakespeare's 'The Taming of the Shrew'

Shakespeare's tart early comedy *The Taming of the Shrew* has been made into an opera (by Hermann Götz) and into a musical (*Kiss me, Kate*, by Cole Porter). Until now, no one ever attempted to make a ballet of this burlesque, surprisingly enough since the constant flux of corresponding and contrasting scenes and in the composition of the characters (Bianca's suitors really form a trio) contains many choreographic elements. It strikes one — now that one comes to think of it — as amazing that the tale had never been told in ballet form.

Now the cycle of Shakespeare ballets is enhanced by this bouncing story of the taming of the Shrew Katharina by Petruchio, a love game tumbling over stick and stone. Unless I am very much mistaken ballet literature is one first-class choreography the richer.

Stuttgart's ballet-lovers thought the same and gave John Cranko's *Shrew* a reception such as few productions were given in past seasons, and it was a mixed audience with a large out of town element. Cranko dedicated the ballet to Stuttgart's ballet director Walter Erich Schäfer. As a present for his 68th birthday, it was danced for him in the Grosses Haus of the Württemberg Staatstheater by this country's best known ballet group.

Walter Schäfer is largely responsible for the great revival of ballet in Stuttgart, a renaissance that hardly once looked back. On his 70th birthday he will be celebrated as the "Swabian Diaghilev."

The score in Cranko's *Shrew* is by Domenico Scarlatti. More precisely, it was taken from him and orchestrated by Stuttgart's ballet conductor, Kurt-Heinz Stolze. The model taken, though inimitable, is Stravinsky's *Pulcinella*. Also Casella's *Scarlattiana* seemed to have inspired some of the tonal pattern.

Domenico's enormous output of harpsichord sonatas is the principal source form which this music flows in a thematic pattern that is at times uneven but never at variance with the dance, often piquant and flavoured with humour, such as the spine-chilling off-key wind instrument (an ocarina, I think) that accompanies the pitiful singing voice of Bianca's elderly



suitor, Gremio. Stolze's score is functional and of a high standard, and John Cranko directed it with aplomb.

Cranko envisaged a ballet for soloists on an ambitious scale, giving free rein to the comedy which simmers in the play. The group forms an alert colourful frame, ending the two acts with a tarantella. The second act has a pas de huit, choreographically not very accomplished, inserted apparently to bolster the rather thin action of the piece at that point.

The second act does not have the concentrated grace of the first. From a dramatic ballet point of view it is not as plausible as the first act, lapsing too obviously into episodes, earning its laughs from decorative inventiveness rather than from dancing ability — the old wooden nag, for example, on which Petruchio and his shrew ride home after the marriage, or the clowning with the "jinxed" table on which the dishes always slip out of reach of the hungry diners.

All this is forgotten, however, beside the really fascinating product of John Cranko's choreographic imagination presented in the six great soloist parts. The Bianca group with the three suitors dissolves into duets when it ceases to be a quartet.



Marcia Haydée as Katharina and Richard Cragun as Petruchio in John Cranko's new ballet "The Taming of the Shrew"

(Photo: Madeline Winkler-Betzendahl)

With a wealth of formal detail that is breathtaking, the duets vary what are basically always the same situations — the three planets around the charmingly lyrical central star, a graceful, delicate star. Susanne Handke as Bianca is as discreet as she is carefully characteristic. Egon Madsen is very funny as the bewildered buffo, Gremio.

John Neumeier is irresistible as the beau Horensio. Heinz Clauss is the charming Lucentio who triumphantly carried off the prize after his gentle and elegant pas de deux with her.

This rather lyrical and "comical" group is matched with the dramatic comical principal couple, Katharina and Petruchio. This is a gem of choreographic invention, modern ballet at its best.

The impression was really given that Cranko measured the characters exactly to fit the forms of his pupils Marcia Haydée and Richard Cragun. What each offers as individuals is figuratively animated to the last detail, is the flesh and blood of character fashioned into a sublime, magnificently flexible and at the same time precise form.

Marcia Haydée — I do not hesitate after this splendid performance to call her the prima ballerina of the German stage — proves her ability here in a humourous vein as a dancing actress with a polished command of mime. Her stubborn, surly venom was marvellous to watch, her temperamental explosions, her fiery aggressiveness could not fail to captivate.

She lashes out with her whole body. She barks with her legs, has a through and through animal wildness about her for which "shrew" seems far too tame. Then in the middle of one clawing whirl she stops short as if struck by a delightful thought, giving the world to know with what sweet abandon she will give herself to her tamer.

As the tamer Richard Cragun is a great fellow who plays it rough with great charm only the love game requires such tactics. He avoids brutality in any form and the arrogance of the victor.

In both a marvellous love fire burns. Together they raise the burlesque to the level of a grand erotic comedy. They do this with an artistry and delicacy which motivates the highest aesthetic qualities of the ballet.

Such accomplished acting and dancing will hardly be seen on a ballet stage in this country for some time to come.

At the end, to thunderous applause, the whole ensemble appeared, with Cranko, the director and Elisabeth Dalton, who designed the stage and the beautifully colourful costumes she excells at making.

Marcia Haydée picked from her bouquet a dark red rose. She pressed it to her lips and with a deep curtsy presented it to her partner, Richard Cragun. No shrew could confess her surrender to domestication with more charm.

K. H. Ruppel

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 18 March 1969)

Donizetti's 'Roberto Devereux' revived in Bonn

Oscar Fritz Schuh, the well-known director who takes pleasure in stirring up a wasps' nest now and then, once said that thirty to forty works comprise the limit to the really established operatic repertory. This is true and also untrue: true because the operatic roundabout really does revolve around this number of old faithfuls that never let us down; untrue because apart from a few new operas which should really be ripe for repertory now inquisitive hands are always rummaging in old forgotten treasure chests. Often treasures are found, admired for a while and then forgotten.

It is not that opera managers and directors have no interest in rummaging. It is just that each rummages doggedly by himself. Each wants *his* premiere, *his* opera find to attract the critics from far and near to praise his bloodhound instinct.

Thereafter, no one is very anxious to perform what another has found, to test a work for its repertory potential and familiarise the public with it. The unimaginativeness of the allegedly so inventive producer is therefore unparalleled. Yet everyone is surprised when Schuh remarks that repertory opera is confined to thirty or forty works.

Donizetti is now in vogue among the operatic treasure hunters. Two years ago performed Munich and Düsseldorf gave *Anna Bolena*. Munich has been rehearsing *Viva la Mamma*. Nuremberg is planning a production of *Lucrezia Borgia*. Milan revived *Maria di Rohan*, Stuttgart produced *Maria Stuart* and Bonn, which in 1966 revived *La Favorita* with success but without setting a trend, has now presented *Roberto Devereux*. This opera about Elizabeth I of England and her favourite, Devereux, Earl of Essex, had been gathering dust in Italian libraries for 100 years until it was revived in 1964 in Naples and two years later in Rome. Translated into German by Ralf Weikert the opera has been given an enthusiastic welcome by Donizetti fans in Bonn.

The libretto by Salvatore Cammarano who also wrote the libretto for Verdi's *Il Trovatore*, is not entirely related to historical fact. It deals with Elizabeth's passion for Robert Devereux, who is accused of treason by Parliament. He in turn loves Sarah, who is betrothed to the Earl of Nottingham. Surprisingly it is the Earl who defends his friend Robert before the House of Lords until the unfortunate four-sided love affair is made public knowledge.

Nottingham fumes and poor Robert singing a waltz-like theme goes to his execution. The possibility of a pardon is prevented by Nottingham.

The plot is merely a framework, the effects are everything. Robert's waltz theme is therefore one of the few somewhat too clever concessions to contemporary taste.

The overture with the anachronistic "God save the Queen" quotation, tending to banality, is followed by a sequence of arias, duets and choruses which convey passion, pain, friendship, love and especially fierce jealousy, a cornucopia of invention, the magic of which tersely binds the whole together.

This is an inventiveness which gives depth to the score with dramatic characterisation. Elizabeth's pompous coloratura heightens the drama by conveying her emotional turmoil, a feeling of her being quite beside herself. She is not just a Queen she is also a woman who feels and expresses deep emotion.

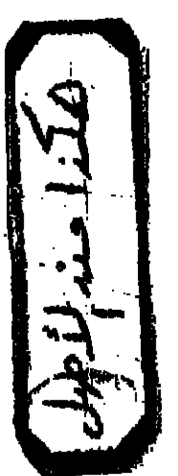
The orchestra does not give such a shattering accompaniment to the action on the stage as say in Verdi's *Don Carlos* or even in *Traviata*. It rises, however, beyond the mere function of accompaniment achieving musical crescendi. The effect is heightened by Ralf Weikert's extraordinary economic direction giving free play to the drama on stage.

Besides Bonn opera has engaged one of the very rare types of dramatic coloratura sopranos, Sonja Poot. The way she builds up Elizabeth's passionate outbursts, giving them plausibility and significance and bring out the full character of the Queen is extraordinary. This is one of the best performances seen on this country's operatic stages for a long time, and compensates for the fact that the pleasant flexible tenor voice of Gunnar Dragos as Robert does seem ill-suited for the part towards the end, and that Janet Jacques as Sarah has difficulty in projecting her mezzo voice which is still a little underdeveloped.

Pieris Zarmas, as Nottingham, does not yet have his rich baritone voice quite under control. The sets by Ottowerner Meyer are light and airy. The wine red walls and black and white tiled floor give the scene an elegant modern appearance. Director Pierre Leon did the one sensible thing — he divided the conflict situations into short highly dramatic scenes.

Heinz W. Koch

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 17 March 1969)



THEATRE

Tennessee Williams's 'striptease of the soul' at Hamburg

The latest news about Tennessee Williams comes from the European south. The pilgrim to Rome, recently converted to the Roman communion, is said to be waiting for an audience with the Pope.

Eyewitness reports from that city discreetly suggest that the delay may be caused by a certain sense of insecurity apparent in the American playwright. It is perhaps feared that he may not quite complete his path to Rome.

Such rumours and suggestions would be *tactless* in the case of anybody else, but in the case of Tennessee Williams they are certainly allowed. Every line he writes focuses one's interest on his autobiography which unfolds with every play that appears.

The last play to supply autobiographical information of this kind was *The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Any More*. It was a symbolic anticipation of a religiously orientated "Roman spring" which the author hoped to experience.

The latest chapter in this now widely publicised declaration of faith is *Kingdom of Earth*, given in Hamburg one year after it was first produced in New York. Against this background of fictional reality being caught up with by life, this play seems like a message from another season of the year, a chance message arriving from a dark period of winter, and winter always returns.

Kingdom is about death and survival on the Mississippi, about a Memphis flood. It is a naturalistic parable of the Deluge into which Tennessee Williams dips a fairly representative collection of characters and themes from his earlier work.

This baptism is full of symbolism. The final scene in this play is clear enough — a man and a woman trying to save themselves on the roof of a ruined farmhouse.

In the storey underneath the transvestite Lot in his mother's clothes is not as lucky as his namesake in the Old Testament, is not spared the downfall of this Sodom but is washed away, liquidated as the personification of his author's past. On the roof sits the half-brother, Chicken, who was appropriated Lot's wife and it is left in doubt whether he will survive the end of a world on his precarious perch, or whether the flood, rushing in with the thunder of a burst dike, will overwhelm him in his newly won kingdom on earth half swamped in the Mississippi.

It is no house of glory therefore that Tennessee Williams built here before his pilgrimage to Rome as a symbol of weakness and hope. The scenic sequence, The Seven Descents of Myrtle, as it is called in the original title, represents a very private kind of antigenesis which in its composition is directed towards the sacred number, Seven, as towards a guiding star.

This is a deliberately vulgarised genesis. Williams' evoked from the chaos of memory. Kingdom of Earth is also something from Big Daddy in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* who says at the end, "I'm goin' up on the roof ... to look over my kingdom."

The play was tranlated by Jan Lustig and he called Chicken *Hühnchen*. In the performance in Hamburg's Thalia Theater Chicken was called *Küken*. The appropriate translation of the word could be disputed, especially as the origin of the name is described in the play.

Williams based the great southern theme of racial conflict on this fraternal quarral between Lot and Chicken, between outsiders, aggressive, compulsive and pervaded by a spirit of stubborn acquisitiveness. Chicken, born a bastard half-cast, was thrown out by half-brother Lot's white mother, Miss Lottie. Since then he has lived "the life of a dog who belongs to no one and who owns nothing."

He owns nothing until the consumptive Lot dies in his mother's kimono in her gilded room which relates her to the Wingfields in the *Glass Menagerie*. Apart from this, Lot, a main character only on the programme, recalls a technique employed by Williams in several plays, particularly *Suddenly Last Summer*.

Lottie's darling boy carries, as a dying element, the author's homoerotic motif through the play. This is inflated by means of intrigue.

To deprive his hated half-brother of the heritage he has promised him in return for Chicken's management of the farm, the dying transvestite marries the first best woman that comes his way.

This is Myrtle, formerly a stripper and apparently much else besides: But this vulgar sister of Blanche in *A Streetcar Named Desire* yields in the one night the dying Lot spends in Miss Lottie's house fearfully and compulsively to Chicken.

Triumphal exit on to the roof — "Sing of it, frogs and crickets, Chicken is king," a patriarch floating on the primeval flood, a father whose woman, Myrtle, in the event of survival, will ensure the continuity of the family's unhappy fate.

The Seven Descents of Myrtle, this latest attempt at self-liberation, closes with the cry "Up! This is a cry of fear which betrays the motivations of this neurotic drama chained to the ever-recurrent theme, the surmounting of the presence of suffering. This characterises many of Williams' plays and *Kingdom*, by comparison not his best, is no exception.

The Hamburg production in the Thalia Theater uses a revolving stage by Günter Walbeck. A shabby corner-front for the external scenes; a huge room which at a distance connects the scenery with Thomas Wolfe's *Look Homeward, Angel*. Two storeys consisting of kitchen-living room and a bedroom for the principal scenes.



Siegfried Wischnewski as Chicken and Gisela Peltzer as Myrtle in the German language premiere at the Hamburg Schauspielhaus of Tennessee Williams's 'Kingdom on Earth'

(Photo: Rosemarie Clausen)

This was a functionally satisfactory solution. Other, technically less complicated arrangements, would have been possible.

Director Detlef Sierck pruned down the lengthly text to two hours. Miss Lottie's gigolo story was cut. The worst knots in Chicken's part were unravelled a bit. The transvestite scene, with Joachim Rolfs in the rather thankless role, was toned down considerably.

All told, the sharp corners were smoothed down a bit, the director did not risk throwing out the harsh elements for what they were. But with these few reservations the production fully deserves the applause it received.

The casting of the two principal parts was decisive. Siegfried Wischnewski's Chicken is a greatly darkened Kowalski variant with sadistic tendencies.

Chicken is full of sly malice, but he also has the intelligence of the outsider guided by instinct. A few times Wischnewski lapsed into eye-rolling villainy, but this was probably due to the tensions of a first-night evening.

Gisela Peltzer had the most difficult task. She began on a querulous note which seemed to jar with her normal voice. Also her movements and gestures seemed at first foreign to her nature.

After a while, however, she found her level which was that of the rabbit petrified by the huge snake, savouring the thought of being devoured. This was maintained with an amusing tilt towards satire.

Gisela Peltzer made the tilt complete when she parodied in great style a few hapless songs. She neglected somewhat the parallel development of the relationship to her moribund baby (a little too much editing here perhaps) and towards the end repeats her repertoire rather much.

Nevertheless, even where this part did not (or did not yet) give the impression of fitting into place as it should it had an engaging quality. It had the fascination of a great number which is a dance with seven veils and the end with nothing. Tennessee Williams and a striptease of the soul.

Klaus Wagner

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 15 March 1969)

Booksellers' prize awarded to Mitscherlich



Alexander Mitscherlich, Booksellers' Association award winner. He now heads the Sigmund Freud Institute in Frankfurt.

(Photo: dpa)

This year's Book Sellers' Associataon prize has been awarded to 61-year-old Professor Alexander Mitscherlich, since 1967 professor for psycho-analysis and social psychology at Frankfurt University.

The Booksellers' Association announced that Professor Mitscherlich was offered the award for being "a courageous and orthodox personality and a true democrat."

Professor Mitscherlich distinguished for his work as a scientist and author, as a practising doctor and author of many works dealing with cultural matters, has "made a decisive contribution to discussions on existential problems," according to the Association's citation.

The award will be made on 12 October in the Paulskirche in Frankfurt, during the international Frankfurt Book Fair from 8 to 13 October.

The Professor studied history, philosophy and literature in Munich and Prague from 1928 to 1932. After that he worked as a bookseller in Prague for two years, having been temporary arrested by the Gestapo. Later he studied medicine in Zürich, continuing as a medical student in Heidelberg. He completed his studies in Heidelberg in 1941 and was employed as a neurologist. Later he worked as a specialist for internal medicine and after that psycho-analysis.

After the war he founded this country's first psycho-somatic university clinic in Heidelberg. He headed this clinic until he moved to Frankfurt in 1960. He has been director there of the Sigmund Freud Institute, also founded by Professor Mitscherlich.

Alexander Mitscherlich began writing immediately after the war. His first publications were *Freiheit und Unfreiheit in der Krankheit* (1946) and *Vom Ursprung der Sucht* (1947). He ventured into other fields in 1948 with his book dealing with the medical aspects of the Nuremberg trials, *Medizin ohne Menschlichkeit*. He continued this analysis of the inter-action of individual and collective, psychological and political factors in 1963 in his book *Auf dem Weg zur vaterlosen Gesellschaft*. This was followed in 1965 by *Die Unwirtlichkeit unserer Städte*.

In this latest work, *Die Unfähigkeit zu trauern*, written with the assistance of his wife and colleague, Margareta. He examines here the sources of collective behavious which are also the sources of politics.

(DER TAGESSPIEGEL, 8 March 1969)

EDUCATION

Inadequate musical training

TEACHING METHODS NEED REORGANISING

CHRIST UND WELT
Deutsche Wochenzeitung

In the fatherland of the major compositions of the Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods and of the avant garde, few people study music today. In itself this is no disadvantage since supply always depends on demand.

Every year some thousand students complete their musical training. Of the instrumentalists only one student has a chance of a really great career. During the past ten years only two music students from this country have achieved international status: the violinist Edith Peinemann and the pianist Christoph Eschenbach.

Although the state invests about 50,000 Marks in a single music course lasting eight to ten semesters, the dividends are meagre. For more than 75 per cent of all music students are inadequately trained so that, on the one hand, there are too many graduates but, on the other hand, a shortage of properly qualified young musicians.

Federal Republic orchestras have at the most a hundred vacancies per year. More than ten per cent of these vacancies cannot be filled at all, a further four per cent can only be filled by employing more female musicians than hitherto and by engaging foreign instrumentalists.

Five per cent of the singers in professional choirs sing German as a foreign language. And almost a third of the soloists employed by opera companies in this country come from abroad; this applies in particular when it comes to casting leading roles.

The fact that many foreigners come to the Federal Republic to study music does not throw a positive light on training facilities in this country. Usually, emotions have played a part in decisions: for example, longing for the "land of music" which this country is supposed to be; people tend to think that, armed with generous scholarships, they are bound to be able to learn and comprehend German music in this country.

It is alarming to learn that a considerable number of aspiring musicians leave the music colleges before finishing their courses. This is not because of resignation but because they enter the profession too early, having been enticed by attractive offers. The disadvantage of making such an early start only comes to light later when musicians discover that they cannot climb any further up the professional ladder because of inadequate basic training.

On the other hand, this fact also illustrates the deficiencies of musical training. The young student obviously thinks he has no hope of adding to his knowledge and hence quits the college before taking his final examinations.

What prospects await the young musician after he has graduated? Music colleges often omit to draw attention to the existing opportunities. At smallish theatres beginners often receive no more than six hundred Marks gross per month, even if they appear as soloists. Deputy conductors may frequently earn less than members of an orchestra who enjoy well-organised employment. As a result, good deputy conductors are a rarity.

However, anyone thinking of reforming the training system should investigate the causes of the present dilemma. In an excellent report entitled Recommendations for the Reform of Musical Education, which was drawn up by a study group at the behest of the Baden-Württemberg education ministry and has just been published, it is stated that the present situation must be resolutely and frankly reviewed before further thought can be given to reforms.

The Stuttgart recommendations really amount to a prototype since they are not utopian but practical. From a practical viewpoint they complement the recommendations of the Federal Republic Music Council on the reorganisation of training facilities for musicians and music-lovers.

Carl Seemann, the pianist and director of the Freiburg college, chaired the commission. The commission established that a general decrease in musical education was demonstrated by the following facts: the number of laymen who received basic instrumental training was decreasing; less music is played in the home; orchestras lack young musicians; young soloists from the Federal Republic rarely achieve success on the competitive international scene.

There are six reasons for these complaints: inadequate musical education at all types of schools; too few well-trained music teachers; lack of musical training during the pre-school phase based on voluntary experiments; the network of music schools for young people is inadequate; the social standing of free-lance music teachers is unsatisfactory and is not in keeping with their training; there is no systematic planning of further education opportunities in the musical sphere.

In 1967 music teachers described the position of their subject at primary schools as catastrophic. Since then the situation has deteriorated still further. Only a tenth of the proposals contained in the educational plan for music, which are at any rate pretty modest, can be fulfilled.

Especially in towns there are children who do not even have an opportunity to attend singing lessons at primary school, let alone participate in other forms of musical activity. "Musical illiteracy at school-leaving age is not an exception but almost the general rule."

And what about senior schools? "Unfortunately the picture is not much better here either," say the Baden-Württemberg experts and the same is true of other Federal states. The small number of music lessons at seconday schools does not provide an opportunity to make good primary schools' omissions, especially as this is a very difficult tasks psychologically and from the point of view of teaching as well as regards method.

If one accepts Georg Picht's thesis — which certainly cannot be disputed — that "music is the gift which opens up the avenues of intellectual life and hence precedes all other intellectual activities and knowledge", then one gets some idea of the sin of excluding music lessons from the secondary school curriculum.

Those people who want to abolish music lessons at school hope that music schools will complement the ordinary schools.

This may seem an innocent idea at first glance. But there are too few schools in the Federal Republic which could take on this task. The value of music has evidently sunk so low in the view of the relevant ministries that the possibilities which smaller countries exploit admirably are ignored here.

In Hungary there is one music school for every 23,000 inhabitants; in the Federal Republic there is one for every 236,000, citizens. But Hungary is no exception. In Austria there is a music school for every 34,000 inhabitants, in the Soviet Zone for every 77,000 and even in the vast USSR one for every 70,000 inhabitants. The situation in this country must be compared with these figures to realise that the Federal Republic is no longer the "land of music".

It is not as if education ministers have remained deaf to the complaints of musicians. The Education Ministers' Conference of 19 and 20 January 1967 ostentatiously produced a recommendation for the encouragement of music and musical education.

In beautiful official German the recommendation talked of "a tight network of well-equipped music schools for young people to complement music lessons, if possible staffed by full-time teachers; subsidies for gifted children for lessons and purchasing instruments or supplying loaned instruments".

Then the Association of Federal Republic Music Schools produced a comprehensive list envisaging a music school in every town in this country with more than twenty thousand inhabitants, and stated that temporary accommodation for music lessons should be available in every town with over five thousand inhabitants.

If this utopian plan was realised, 40[illegible] new music schools would have to be opened. Then at least there would be one school per 58,000 inhabitants. But here, if not before, one comes up against the vicious circle which those concerned with musical education in this country find so difficult to escape.

In order to provide more and, above all, better lessons teachers must first be trained. But where are they going to come from? Even the first steps towards realising proposed reforms meet with resistance.

At least in some Federal states a definitely anti-social method is employed at music colleges to spare the state money: there are officials posts for full-time teachers but too few; hence part-time staff have to be engaged. Even if their qualifications are excellent they cannot be appointed to full-time posts if there are no vacancies.

So bad teachers or those who for certain reasons are not popular with students can occupy posts at music colleges. As long as they hold official posts — and who can get rid of a teacher if his efficiency deteriorates? — even the most capable musicians cannot be employed.

A young, possibly excellent part-time teacher cannot work for more than nine-and-a-half hours a week because otherwise he would be obliged to fulfill the other conditions normally insisted upon by the state.

Thus the state exploits a distressing situation, it keeps the number of official posts at a minimum so as to cling to cheap part-time teachers in a morally debatable fashion; and these teachers do not enjoy sufficient job security and soon lose their enthusiasm for the career of a music teacher.

But this miserable situation cannot simply be solved by financial means. The training system as such needs to be reorganised. The unfortunate entanglement of the education system in the Federal Republic means that in some cities there is a state music college alongside a city college or conservatory, and the two establishments compete pointlessly with one another.

It was distressing to see how the state kept the Cologne music college short of funds while the city provided generously for the Rhineland Music College. The two institutes competed and grotesque situations arose to the disadvantage of students.

An official decision in West Berlin has eliminated such competitive struggles. The Julius Stern Conservatory has been amalgamated with the music college — as a kind of feeder school which will also train non-professional musicians.

Finally, a commission of college and conservatory directors has drawn up a recommendation which would enable musical education to be conducted in an organised manner in future. This recommendation envisages only two types of training: the training of laymen which would be carried out by music schools, and professional training for which state music colleges would be responsible.

Baden-Württemberg's initiative is promising even if it does not agree completely with the division of training into two categories. But practical proposals have been made for a system of musical education from the kindergarten to university level. At last there seems to be a chance of preventing this country from sinking to the level of an underdeveloped country vis-à-vis musical education.

(CHRIST UND WELT, 7 March 1969)



All kinds of musical instruments that children can learn to play are available at the Duisburg musical kindergarten that was opened in 1961

(Photo: Conti-Press)

GERONTOLOGY

The secret of ageing remains a teasing phenomenon

Süddeutsche Zeitung
MÜNCHNER NEUESTE NACHRICHTEN

When Radio Moscow recently announced that a Russian had died at the age of 190, this was probably not strictly true. But its regarded as a fact that the Canadian Pierre Joubert lived to be 113, and in this country Luise Rissman, who died on 2 February 1958, holds the current age record: she was 108 years old.

Must we grow old? Couldn't we, under favourable circumstances, spend at least a century on earth? What is it that makes us grow old and ill and finally die? Why can't we humans live as long as elephants for example, who survive for two hundred years, or giant turtles whose even greater longevity can only be guessed at?

Apparently the "natural phenomenon of the one-sided course of life", as scientists describe the ageing process, is an inexorable law. Even single-cell organisms cannot escape this process although they are often cited as examples of "eternal life".

If slipper animalcules are reared in hay infusions then they continue to live in the daughter cells after cell-division. But in fact the individual life of a single-cell organism ends when cell-division occurs. The daughter cells already belong to the next generation. Moreover, experiments have shown that cell-division can be prevented and then the single-cell organism perishes like any other organisms.

Ageing is popularly linked with deterioration and signs of wear and tear in the body. According to this view, the ageing process begins at birth or even at the moment of conception.

Closer investigation of ageing shows that a number of mechanisms all contribute towards the phenomenon. For example, the water content of body cells decreases constantly during a person's life. Thus the cells gradually lose their vigour. The skin becomes slack and wrinkled.

In addition the metabolic processes, which are essential to the normal state of an aqueous milieu, slow down gradually. This deceleration means that substances are retained in the cells which were previously excreted. But the metabolism of cells themselves is not significantly affected by these modifications. The fact that cell metabolism still functions very efficiently in old people demonstrates that the cancer of age often progresses swiftly.

A process which does not directly affect cell metabolism but inhibits the production of albumin originates in the genetic command centre of cell nuclei, deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA). The chemical composition of this acid, which is hereditarily determined, affects what is produced in the tiny cell factories at a particular time. One of the most important functions of cells is to produce albuminoid substances, which the body needs for its various functions, under the direction of DNA.

But the longer a person lives, the longer he is exposed to natural and artificial energy-rich rays and the more often he comes into contact with substances which can chemically change the DNA in the cell nuclei; and this in turn can upset the system of producing albumin in the cells.

Consequently, one possibility of checking the ageing process could be to provide ageing cells with fresh DNA which has not undergone any chemical changes. But how can virgin DNA with the right genetic properties be produced and transferred to the cell nuclei?

Hamburg professor J. Kühnau writes: "With the increasing deterioration of albumin synthesis, the organism's adaptability decreases. The ageing organism becomes less efficient and this includes its purely biochemical functions . . .

"We do not know what lies behind these modifications or why the interplay of various bodily functions becomes less harmonious with advancing age. In the last analysis this is probably not a purely biological question but a physical-chemical problem.

"Biological matter is also subject to natural, physical laws. According to the second basic tenet of thermodynamics, all matter tends towards entropy, towards the levelling-out of all energy and hence towards absolute death."

One of the most obvious causes of ageing is degenerative disease, above all arteriosclerosis (hardening and narrowing of the arteries which supply the heart and brain). The walls of these blood vessels become fatty and swellings occur, containing a waxy yellowish substance: this is called cholesterol. Calcium builds up in these blockages making the blood vessels unelastic and fragile. Arteriosclerosis is regarded as a possible cause of heart attacks. It can also slow down the supply of oxygen to the brain, kidneys and other organs so that they deteriorate prematurely.

Roy Lee Walford, a well-known American pathologist, thinks that an immuno-biological mechanism is one of the reasons why we grow old and finally die. He refers to the difficulties of organ transplants which have become particularly evident recently because of heart transplant operations. Most of these operations are still doomed to failure sooner or later.

The reason for this is that the human body regards the transplanted organ as a carrier of foreign albumin and tries to reject it just like a disease agent. What would happen, asks Walford, if during the course of life the lymphocytes responsible for defence mechanisms changed mutatively to such an extent that some of them attacked not only disease agents but also healthy tissue?

Or what would happen if some healthy corporeal cells changed so much that they were regarded by the body's natural defence system as dangerous intruders? If Walford's theory is correct, then ageing could be a kind of secret civil war within the body. The defence system of immunity reactions, which protects the body against dangerous germs, could turn against its own master and gradually destroy him.

All these theories obviously need to be thoroughly investigated. In fact we know very little about the process of ageing. Much present knowledge is fragmentary and still needs to be enlarged to be properly understood.

This applies to the knowledge that during the course of his life man loses a fair proportion of those cells which cannot regenerate themselves. It is thought that of the 11,000 nerve cells present in the brain shortly after birth, which cannot be renewed, between four and twenty per cent perish; as many as 35 per cent of muscle cells perish during the course of life. Every day we live, we die a little.

But this loss of substance can obviously not cause death. Professor E. Letterer of Tübingen once said, deliberately exaggerating, "A person does not die of ageing". All vital organs have sufficient reserve substance to remain efficient even if a good deal of tissue is lost.

Letterer says that death from old age hardly ever occurs. "Even if a person of advanced years dies suddenly without having suffered from obvious anatomical complaints, thorough examination always reveals some signs of disease which, taken together with the deterioration of bodily functions occasioned by age, caused death."

So the secret of ageing remains unsolved even though researchers are concentrating more on the central problems. It is said that geriatrics have now reached the stage which cardiac and cancer research had reached fifteen years ago.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 19 March 1969)

The effects of asthma on hearing

Results of recent research indicate that the human auditory system absorbs far more impressions than is usually realised. Over-sensitive people can apparently be influenced and irritated by ultra-sonic sounds and tones, even if the source of the sound is nothing out of the ordinary.

The discovery that asthma patients react particularly strongly to high-pitched sounds stimulated investigations of the extent to which high-frequency sound oscillations are part of the "noise scene" in which almost every person has to live.

It emerged that noises which are regarded as especially disturbing, for example the rustling of paper, the ringing of alarm-clocks, the noise made by some children's toys and of course babies' cries are accompanied by fairly high-frequency tones. Investigations also proved that eating an apple or lettuce, scratching the skin and other similar activities belong to this category of noise.

An even more surprising observation was that a remarkable number of parents of asthmatic children had voices which sounded different to the voices of other adults. An analysis of the frequency of their voices revealed that a larger number of ultra-sonic sounds were emitted when uttering quite ordinary words in daily conversation with children.

It would, therefore, seem reasonable to assume that the aspects of speech which are normally inaudible are not as unimportant as has been thought hitherto. Perhaps asthma patients are "protesting" against an environment which attacks them by means of tones and sounds of a frequency to which they are naturally over-sensitive.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 14 March 1969)

THE ECONOMY

Limited spending will not brake the economy

Financial policy that runs contrary to economic trends is highly complex. The government is expected to spend money when it has none and save when its purse is full.

During the depression the economy was stimulated by capital investment financed by government loans. Now the pendulum has swung the other way since these investmensl have begun to yield considerable revenue. A stringent spending policy is now advisable. Government spending is being curtailed. The budget, as the experts say, is being decelerated.

Cabinet resolutions in this respect are little more than warning signals, a sign that the government is determined to avoid the mistakes made in 1965 when a thriving economy was overheated by further public spending.

In that year, the Federal government distributed incentives when there was not the slightest reason to do so. Eventually, the Bundesbank was obliged to curb the flow of capital it had helped to initiate. The economy wavered and fears of a major crisis swept the country.

This time care is being taken to ensure that the emergency brake, which is also politically dangerous, is not pulled.

It is commendable therefore that the government is taking steps to avert serious overheating in the economy. The effect of these measures will be largely psychological, but they should not be underrated on that account.

Psychology is an essential feature of the economic flux. The hopes and fears of producers, dealers, consumers and investors are often more influential than the impact of actual events. In this respect the signals sent out from Bonn are significant.

It would be wrong to think, however, that adequate precautions have now been taken against a possible crisis. Lobbing 1,600 million Marks off the budget only means that it has been reduced to dimensions originally agreed by the Cabinet — roughly 82,400 million Marks.

Further allocations and the residue of committments taken over from the previous year which were appended to the 1969 budget correspond roughly with the amount that has now been saved. A budget of 82,400 million Marks is still eight per cent greater than that of the previous year.

Such an increase in expenditure is of course not contrary to economic trends in the sense that barriers are being set up against an unwelcome boom in the economy. Presuming an increase in the national product of seven per cent, the Federal budget would be neither stimulative nor repressive. It would not give further incentives to the economy and it would not throw a dampening blanket of restrictions on some sectors. If the government really wants to apply brakes, it must take more severe measures.

This probably would only be the beginning of a series of problems. Hitherto, disputes between the various ministries over the distribution of frozen budgetary reserves were fairly mild because the freeze was to be examined in July and it seemed probable that these monies would be freed soon afterwards.

If this prospect now wanes with increasing activity in the economy, and if further cuts are made in public spending, the Ministers' opposition to further economies in their spheres will be great indeed. Federal states and public authorities too will not take kindly to further cuts in their spending programmes.

At present, there is no reason, however, to take severe restrictive measures. Full employment here and there has led to price increases, but there is no sign that prices generally are being forced up by prevailing conditions.

The cost of living price index is primarily affected by higher rents and food prices which can hardly be checked by the instruments of economic policy. The index of industrial products, which is far more significant, climbed by only 0.1 per cent from January to February, and is only 0.3 per cent higher than the 1968 February figure.

Nevertheless, the steady flow of orders reported by industry may tax available facilities and this may lead to a rash of higher prices in the near future. From a general economic viewpoint therefore Professor Karl Schiller's intention to ease restrictions on imports makes sense, especially since these are imports from countries in the Eastern Bloc and Asia at highly competitive prices.

In industry itself many argue that the substitute revaluation of the Mark represented by the measures taken by the government to facilitate imports and curb exports has had no effect at all. This complaint should logically lead to higher import quotas for low-price countries. This would increase price stability and help to reduce this country's export surpluses.

Less can be expected of efforts to induce large companies to make greater advance payments of income and corporation profits taxes. An appeal to the economic insight of industrial managers will not have much effect.

Definite steps must be taken if the working capital of companies is to be restricted. In this respect, the Federal government may be supported by the Bundesbank. It is possible that the Bundesbank decided to restrict the commercial banks' credit margins at its meeting on 20 March.

Official statements on the economy rarely lack the formal announcement that an upward revaluation of the Mark is not being contemplated. The impression is given that a revalution would be the worst thing that could happen to the Federal Republic. From a budgetary point of view, however, the situation has changed considerably in the last four months, or since the government decided to tax exports and facilitate imports.

The main argument advanced in favour of these measures was that not only were they not a drain on the treasury they even realised greater revenue. A revaluation of the Mark would have meant lower prices for agricultural produce and adequate compensation for the farmers.

This aspect of the situation is less ominous when the government has money to spare in times of economic prosperity. It remains to be seen whether the consequences of this will eventually be recognised.

(Kölner Stadt Anzeiger, 20 March 1969)



Economic Affairs Minister Schiller - Lose weight

(Cartoon: Tito Hagedorn / NEUE RUHR ZEITUNG)

Electricity supply companies must be marketing minded

Electricity supply companies have been under fire for years. Greater coordination of kWh prices has been demanded and at least theoretical competition among supply companies.

Of late, prospects of amalgamating companies in this terribly diffuse network have brightened considerably. The spark has now also landed in Bonn — late, but apparently not too late.

Previous attacks on the semi-monopoly of public supply companies have clearly taken effect. The association of Federal Republic electricity supply companies has now published a list of comparative prices for this country.

The decision to publish comparative prices was made only after long and tedious debates. Prices are found to have approached a common mean.

Not only that, the lines of demarcation in the supply network are becoming more pervious. The intersection of grids is not opposed as vehemently as it once was.

Supply networks are no longer barriers in the way of electric power being conveyed from competitive sources. The warnings of the president of the Monopolies Commission, Eberhard Günther, helped to bring about an arrangement whereby steel industries in the Ruhr are being supplied with power at prices comparable with those paid by competitive industries in the south-west.

It follows that the argument that companies dependent on electric power are turning to foreign sources is unfounded. This was widely believed a few years ago.

Today, the aluminium industry is favouring the Federal Republic as a prime centre of production. No other sector is so dependent on electric power as the aluminium industry, and it would not have settled here if prices were not keen.

In fact, power is not very expensive in this country. Large, far-seeing companies have long since realised that the days of communal egocentricity have passed.

National economic requirements are now at stake. Power prices already exist which yield a profit only indirectly, but no less than other prices with a more direct yield. This attracts the alluminium industry and its ancillaries.

Progressive electricity supply companies have realised that a policy of structural improvement should not only be pursued in ministries and town halls. The majority of companies in this sector, however, still have no desire to do anything but distribute electric power.

Where is there a marketing expert in the electricity supply sector? Where is the man who travels to America, for example, to persuade American companies to set up production plant in an area supplied by his power station? Where is the expert who besides electric power has developed a programme of expansion?

Such matters, which "do not belong to the business," are usually left in the hands of industrial promotion companies. Modern supply companies, however, must learn to "play the market," as all other producers must do.

Until now, these companies have bought their market. This is a bad thing, especially when the sale is between public power supply companies, thus distorting competition. It cannot be denied that such transactions scarcely influence the cost of power. They represent only about a five-hundredth of a Pfennig per kWh. In a communal context they sometimes even serve a useful purpose.

It will be difficult to remove such practices. Absolute competition is not possible in this sector.

It would be economic nonsense if competitive companies laid power lines parallel to each other. The result would be higher power costs because laying lines accounts for one third of supply companies' costs.

Nevertheless, in an attempt to stimulate competition and reduce prices the Federal government is nedeavouring to replace existing agreements on supply boundaries with a rationalisation cartel. This would change little in the present pattern of supply, but it would bring movement into the sector which might eventually result in large-scale reorganisation.

The demand for such movement, a loosening of entrenched structures, is behind the government's proposals. The dwarfs among suppliers must be removed. The price of power on its way through the Bavarian Forest to the electric bulb should not be "milked" five times.

The government has ventured on to a rocky road. Established traditions are in the way of a thorough reorganisation with greater concentration of resources. Has the government the courage to pit itself against traditions which whole communities are willing to defend? Who can vacate thousands of administrative posts?

Who can abolish the occasional voting rights of communal interests in public-private stock companies? Who is prepared to tell local authorities that they should withdraw from this sector because they are not strong enough to increase their capital reserves sufficiently?

Within ten years electricity supply companies must create production and transport facilities to the extent that they are now in use.

(DIE WELT, 18 March 1969)



CONSUMER GOODS

The profitable cosmetics battle for enhanced beauty

The cosmetics industry is one of the few sectors which can boast steady growth rates in the course of its long history. Rarely is turnover ever less than satisfactory.

The ancient Egyptians made beauty preparations such as creams, tinctures and dyes the composition of which was a carefully guarded secret. These products, the material value of which was often very low, were also widely advertised on the markets of the ancient world.

Basically, the problems of this industry have changed little in the past 4,000 years. In this country the cosmetics industry belongs to the group with the highest growth rates and advertising budgets.

Today, cosmetics are not luxury articles, as they once were. In Western countries they are used by people from all walks of life, and not only by women, although men's consumption of cosmetics is still fairly modest.

People who do not use toothpaste nowadays are in the minority, however much this is denied by sensationalist reports. These reports are usually based on inaccurate surveys.

Market experts are better informed. Since the war, sales of cosmetics of every description have increased not only in the Federal Republic but in Europe generally. Turnover in the cosmetics industry climbed at a rate that surpassed that of most other "dynamic" industries.

From 1950 to 1967, sales increased tenfold in this country to 1,300 million Marks. Even in the year of the depression, in 1967, production of cosmetics and skin preparations went up by 6.6 per cent. This was all the more astonishing considering the number of negative factors then influencing the trade. Women, with a tighter hold on their money, went less often to the hairdresser where the majority usually buy their hair-dyes, permanent wave preparations, sprays, fixatives and the like which account for a large proportion of sales.

The Christmas trade in 1967 in typical gifts such as eau de Cologne and perfumes was also sluggish. Then again, dealers were reluctant to place orders in view of the introduction of the added value tax on 1 January 1968.

The cosmetics industry had indeed accustomed itself to higher growth rates, often as much as twenty per cent in previous years. Last year, however, the market regained much of the buoyancy lost during the slump.

Visits to the hairdresser were again more frequent in the first six months. Sales of perm agents and fixatives climbed forty per cent. Dealers replenished their low stocks, all of which resulted in a jump of twenty per cent in overall sales in the first half of the year.

This favourable trend continued in the second half, and experts are confident that if the economy maintains its present pace even higher growth rates can be expected in future, despite the fact that per capita consumption of cosmetics last year amounted to 43.25 Marks.

This average outlay on beauty preparations is all the more surprising when it is remembered that it represents all age groups and of course also men and children. Women between fifteen and 55 therefore must have spent much more than 43 Marks on cosmetics.

This may seem a lot, but compared to America, Scandinavian countries and Great Britain, where even country girls without complete make-up sets are inconceivable, and elderly women use lipstick, this is a fairly low average. Manufacturers hope to stimulate consumption with better advertising directed mainly at young people who usually decide the fate of an article.


The tantalising choice of cosmetics available!

(Photo: Farina gegenüber)

Among the various divisions of the cosmetics industry, skin preparations are the most important, accounting for one fifth of sales. Hair preparations accounts for one third of overall turnover.

Thanks to fashion and the fact that young girls nowadays dye their own hair, a sales boom has been reported in this sector. Eau de Cologne and toothpaste follow in third and fourth places. Next in line on the sales charts are bath salts and similar ingredients.

Following a highly successful advertising campaign, the popularity of these products spread at a rate that surprised even the most optimistic experts. More money is spent on advertising skin and body preparations than on any other products.

As far as advertising budgets are concerned, however, an enormous difference exists between the various companies in this industry. A total 250 million Marks was spent last year on advertising. This represented one sixth of overall turnover.

In advertising outlay therefore the cosmetics industry is surpassed only by the cigarette and washing agents industries. Manufacturers of major brands spend up to fifty per cent of their proceeds on advertising. Many small manufacturers dispense entirely with advertising, but generally speaking a company that sets out to reach consumers at home and abroad needs an advertising budget of at least one million Marks.

The cosmetics industry is not, however, a domain of the giants, firms which are well known on the strength of their advertising alone. The industry employs 30,000 workers, and the majority still work for small and medium-size companies which do not market branded articles. Lacking their own marketing organisations, these companies usually sell their products in neutral wrappings to supermarkets and mail-order houses.

These companies are finding it increasingly difficult to compete with major concerns. In this industry, foreign trade, proportionate to overall turnover, is not a decisive factor, as is the case in most other sectors. Exports last year amounted to only eighty million, imports to 98 million Marks.

A few companies, nevertheless, have a world-wide reputation. Eau de Cologne is sold in more than one hundred countries. This country's leading foreign suppliers are France and America. On world markets Federal Republic companies are still no match for their French and American counterparts.

(DEUTSCHES ALLGEMEINES SONNTAGSBLATT, 23 March 1969)

Second place in flat building

With 10.1 finished flats per 1,000 inhabitants the Federal Republic is a shade behind Sweden (10.2) in housing programmes. The Soviet Union is third with 9.8 flats annually, followed by France with 8, America with 7.5, Great Britain with 7.1 and the Soviet Zone of Germany with 4.2. These are the average figures for the period 1963 to 1967, issued by the institute for town-planning and housing in Bonn.

The institute states, however, that a true estimate can only be made on the basis of a comparison of available sites. In the period from 1962 to 1966 sites for new buildings in the Federal Republic measured an average 693 square feet, compared to 648 in France and 387 square feet in the Soviet Union.

In this respect the Soviet Union is also surpassed by the Soviet Zone which averages 486 square feet.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 19 March 1969)

Considerable foreign interests in cigarette industry

Foreign interests in this country's cigarette market have increased greatly since the war. Almost fifty per cent of the market is at present either influenced or controlled by foreign companies.

The only really national company is Reemtsma in Hamburg. Reemtsma has a dominant position, accounting for 48 per cent of sales.

All other notable cigarette manufacturers in the Federal Republic are affiliates of international concerns or are more or less controlled by foreign interests. These are partly traditional ties, such as in the case of British-American Tobacco cigarette factories in Hamburg, the second largest producer in this country commanding 28 per cent of the market, which are fully owned by British American Tobacco.

Most foreign holdings, however, were secured after the war. Foreign investors were mainly interested in having a foothold in a potentially great EEC cigarette market. The Rupert group, for example, has a 25 per cent interest in Martin Brinkmann in Bremen which accounts for nineteen per cent of sales. The Rupert group comprises powerful international companies which headquarters in South Africa. The Neuerburg concern in Cologne, with 3.5 per cent of the market, belongs almost entirely to R. J. Reynolds, the American company.

Strong foreign connections are also the general rule among small and medium-size cigarette companies. Recently, the American concern, Ligget & Myers, bought its way into the Eilebrecht Cigaretten Fabrik in Baden-Baden. Apart from American Tobacco and Philip Morris, all leading international cigarette companies are represented in the Federal Republic.

Brinkmann makes Marboro under licence from Philip Morris, so this company too can be said to be indirectly represented. Other foreign companies worth mentioning are the Austria, a subsidiary of the Austrian tobacco monopoly, and Landewyk in Trier, owned by the Luxembourg-American Landewyk-Lorillart Corporation.

Besides Reemtsma, other independent national companies, all of them very small, account for only one per cent of the market. Foreign holdings and licences of prominent international companies have filled this country's market with all the leading international brands, including Winston, Camel, Chesterfield, Kent and Pall Mall.

It is strange that none of these brands has really caught the public fancy. Experts say that foreign brands only sold well in the immediate post-war period. With the revival and expansion of a national cigarette industry a gradual change of taste set in which boosted production of strong German brands. These found greater favour with the cigarette-smoking community at large.

The market, as far as investments are concerned, is not too one-sided, however. Balancing the internationalisation of the Federal Republic, Reemtsma has also gained a sound footing in other countries. At present, the company has interests in Argentina, Brazil, Belgium and Switzerland.

Brinkmann has acquired holdings in Tobacco Fina in Belgium which is well established in the Benelux countries with an impressive forty per cent of the market. Tobacco Fina also has connections in Switzerland, Brazil, the Congo and Indonesia.

(Hannoversche Allgemeine, 11 March 1969)

TECHNOLOGY

British steel production process to be tried at Lübeck mill

Liquid iron sprayed through the air in tiny droplets turns into steel. This Millom process, so called after the steel works in England in which it was first successfully tried out a couple of years ago, is to be developed on a larger scale in this country.

Revolutionary and relatively inexpensive, the Millom process is to undergo trials in this country in Lübeck and at the Mannesmann Meer works near Bremerhaven.

At present molten iron smelted in the furnace is converted to steel at considerable expense in costly plant. Steel differs mainly from iron in its carbon content. Crude iron contains four to five per cent carbon; steel on a fraction of this amount.

In the conventional conversion processes air is pumped through the molten iron so that the oxygen in the air combines with the carbon and burns out. Yet steel works that work according to an efficient and economic version of the Bessemer process cost hundreds of millions of Marks to build and are expensive to run.

A couple of years ago a small steel works in Millom in the north of England developed the inexpensive process that bears its name and so brought into being a method that can potentially be used by the smallest producer.

The molten iron is sprayed under pressure through nozzles into the air. Tiny droplets of iron undergo the change from iron to steel almost instantaneously as the air effects carbon combustion droplet by droplet. The droplets solidify and fall to the ground as low carbon-content powdered steel.

The Millom process requires neither fireproof lined baths nor heavy converters or other expensive equipment. The Lübeck pilot plant, which has an annual capacity of 600 tons of sprayed steel, is costing only ten million Marks or so in capital outlay and capacity can be expanded at no great cost.

The grain of the steel powder can be regulated by the size or nozzle or by the use of air or steam.

Further processing of the end product will also be a venture into technological virgin territory. Initially the Lübeck firm is to sell the powdered steel to the chemical industry but plans at a later stage to convert the powder into sinter.

In the sintering process the powder is first pressed into the final moulds and then half-smelted. The result is porous but durable pieces that need no further processing. Used as cogs or bearings their porosity makes them self-lubricating and they need no servicing.

By means of sintering alloys can be inserted between elements in a way that foundrywork with molten metal could never achieve.

Sintering of powdered steel is only in the initial stages in this country. In the United states developments have progressed a good deal further. Manufacture of powdered steel has proved one of the stumbling-blocks and part of this country's as yet insignificant requirements have had to be produced by grinding ingots of steel into the required grain.

The Millom process promises to deliver the goods at no great expense. Powdered steel of the ideal grain for sintering, manufactured in Lübeck, may yet prove a considerable stimulus for metallurgy in this country.

Development of the Millom process is, incidentally, only one example of the many changes in iron and steel. Even in this sector the Pill has gained general acceptance — or, to be more precise, the pellet.

Furnaces are increasingly being fed with pellets, finely ground ore lightly sintered into nuggets. Pellets have considerable advantages for smelting. They do not raise dust. They can be fed into the furnace in exactly the required amount. They speed up the process too, as air passes through the furnace more easily and the temperature can be controlled more exactly.

Already twelve per cent or so of the world production of iron ore is made into pellets before being fed to the furnace and the boffins are also wondering how best to fire furnaces with surplus heat from nuclear reactors. Plans have been developed, for instance, by a team at Aachen Technical University led by Professor Schenck.

A pilot plant for cold manufacture of pig iron using chemical means has already produced results.

In this process the iron ore is first ground to a fine grain, then hydrogen gas heated to 1,000 degrees centigrade (considerably less than the temperature in a blast furnace) is passed through the iron ore meal.

The ore is converted directly into steel without either taking in carbon or becoming crude iron. This process, developed in the Soviet Union, is undergoing trials at Byelovotsk steelworks.

Experiments aimed at continuous manufacture of steel are no less revolutionary than the processes already outlined. Because steel is produced in stages the conventional processes are disproportionately expensive. First the pig iron is smelted in the blast furnace, then it is converted into steel.

What is almost certainly the first continuous steelmaking plant in the world, the Battele Institute's pilot plant in Bobbin Bay, Alabama, converts raw into end product in one continuous process. Yet even in this sector further developments can be expected to follow thick and fast.

(DIE WELT, 15 March 1969)

Missile pioneer dies at 75

Rudolf Nebel, missile pioneer, was 75 on 21 March. In 1929 he and Hermann Oberth built a propaganda rocket for the Ufa film "The Woman in the Moon" and in 1932 he designed a model space platform.

Nebel was soon to learn that a prophet is never heard in his own country. In 1934 and 1938 he was arrested and in 1936 Nebel, who in 1930 built the world's first rocket launching pad in Berlin, was forbidden to engage in rocket research for the rest of his life.

"I have not finished with rockets yet," Rudolf Nebel commented at age 75. Since the war he has delivered over 3,000 lectures on the subject and done a great deal to interest young people in space research.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 21 March 1969)

Increased expenditure on R & D should be allocated

Despite the economic recession of 1967 Federal, state and private enterprise expenditure on research and development has increased considerably. Last year overall R & D expenditure in this country amounted to 14,000 million Marks, according to figures announced by Gerhard Stoltenberg, Minister of Scientific Research. In 1965 this figure, which includes university research, stood at only 10,000 million Marks.

At a press conference given in Bonn on 18 March the Minister stressed that in the past few years this country's position in Europe as regards research and technology has improved.

Between 1964 and 1966 expenditure on scientific research and technological development increased by 36 per cent in this country, as opposed to 33 per cent in France and fifteen per cent in Great Britain.

The Federal government's medium-term financial planning provides for an increase in government-sponsored research from the present 3,800 million to 7,300 million Marks by 1973 and R & D expenditure by private enterprise, standing at 4,700 million Marks in 1966, has now well passed the 5,000-million mark.

"In contrast to simplified accounts," Dr Stoltenberg stated, "the latest OECD studies make it clear that the United States does have an advantage over Europe but that the situation varies from sector to sector."

The United States has a clear lead in computers and semi-conductors, but the gap is insignificant in most synthetics, fibres and pharmaceutics. According to the OECD's research exchange rate Western Europe does not lag hopelessly behind the United States.

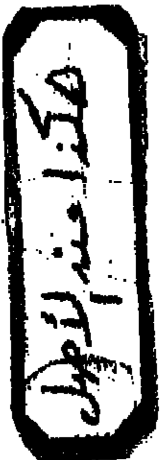
More emphasis needs to be placed on developing new sectors of technology over and above present special emphasis on support for nuclear research, space research, data processing and oceanology.

The Minister anounced that support programmes are under consideration for power engineering, physical technology (including materials engineering), environmental research (including waste disposal), transport technology and biological and medical techniques.

Rapid progress is being made in the construction of large-scale nuclear power stations. While the first two commercial atomic power stations, both of over 600 megawatts, are under construction at Stade on the Elbe and Würgassen on the Weser virtual agreement has been reached on a further five, Dr Stoltenberg stated.

At a total capital outlay of 2,200 million Marks light-water reactors are to be built at Lauffen on the Neckar (about 750 megawatts), on a site near Hamburg (650 megawatts) and at Biblis on the Rhine (1,100 megawatts) a 300-megawatt high-temperature reactor is to be built in Westphalia and a roughly 300-megawatt sodium fast breeder reactor is to be built at, probably, Weisweiler, east of Aachen.

(Münchner Merkur, 19 March 1969)



TRANSPORTATION

Buyers demand greater car safety on the road





Last year a road death occurred once every thirty minutes. Yet although the number of motor vehicles registered increased by eight per cent during 1968 the number of fatal accidents dropped by three per cent to about 16,600 and the number of injuries rose by a mere 1.3 per cent to 468,000.

Three factors, the road, the vehicle and the road-user, combine to make up these macabre statistics. Research into measures by which a maximum of accident prevention can be achieved has only just got under way, so for the time being responsibility can be passed from one to the other.

This is probably what will happen at the hearing to be held in Bonn on 24 and 25 April under the aegis of the Bundestag transport committee. The subject of the hearing is "Internal and External Safety in Motor-Cars". It will not be safety in road traffic in general.

No doubt with one eye on the Bonn hearing the motor industry has just published an account of its efforts to improve vehicle safety and allied problems. For whatever effect roads and road-users have on accident statistics car-makers must take aims to deal with the question: can cars be made safer at the existing price and if not, how much more will additional safety cost?

American manufacturers have already had to render account to their government and manufacturers in this country will have drawn public relations conclusions from the Washington hearings. Yet to what extent are parallels with the United States valid?

A manufacturer such as Daimler-Benz can justly claim that apart from the controversial clean exhaust regulations it does in fact go well beyond US safety regulations in a number of respects and other manufacturers in this country realise that they have to follow in Mercedes' footsteps.

Manufacturers in this country must have all their models passed by the Motor Vehicle Registration Office in Flensburg and every car on the roads has to pass a safety test at two-yearly intervals. It could well be asked whether American controls are quite as strict.

Something is certainly done for vehicle safety already and the ideas are not in this instance of American origin. There can, of course, be no denying that more could be done. The question is: how much is it to cost?

In addition to styling considerations the merits of a whole range of safety devices that are not as things stand standard fittings are being discussed. They include seat belts, head rests, rear window heating and, on the far horizon, electronic gadgets to warn of imminent obstacles.

Were all these to be incorporated in a Volkswagen, the price would go up considerably. A Mercedes, on the other hand, already contains several hundred Marks of additional safety factors.

The industry now argues that however willing it may be to make improvements the perfect safety belt has yet to be found, that head rests so far developed do not meet all requirements, in short, that additional safety fittings will only be incorporated when their efficacy has been proved.

These are arguments that should not be underestimated but perfectionism can also be a pretext. What is needed are improvements that make sense, even if they are not ideal, but at the same time do not make motor vehicle prices prohibitively expensive for the average motorist.

Attack could be the best defence. The greater the runs into which the safety features are incorporated, the less the extra cost need be. Yet even the smallest extra cost is a handicap as long as foreign manufactures do not follow suit.

Are domestic manufacturers waiting until the government makes certain safety features mandatory? This leads willy-nilly to the problem of the Babel of international standards. In this country's case the problem is worsened by Bonn's high export surplus which might prompt other countries to accuse the Federal Republic of administrative protectionism and take appropriate revenge.

Volkswagen of America, on the other hand, can quote a good example of how far a company can go without government controls. Since the beginning of this year head rests have been compulsory in the United States. Volkswagen introduced them last year but left it to customers to decide whether or not to opt for them. Many buyers took the opportunity of saving on safety for at least another few months.

And even compulsion, government or insurance, cannot prevent motorists from buying seat belts but not using them because it is more comfortable without.

Besides, statisticians are still pretty much in the dark as to the efficacy of accident prevention measures. Official statistics are insufficient and manufacturers are still not allowed to make on-the-spot checks to see what part of their cars are responsible for the damage.

The police, the motor industry comments, has not proved very cooperative and the injured persons can seldom be asked what exactly happened because doctors are under obligation not to reveal details about their patients. Surveys of the kind in mind can only be made in America or Sweden. Even so, the Motor Insurers' Association is in the process of evaluating 150,000 road accidents.

Given the difference in physical and psychological make-up between individual motorists it is clear that perfect safety fittings will never be developed, but intensified accident research will make clear what is most in need of improvement.

This is one of the purposes of the basic research that the Motor Manufacturers' Association has commissioned over and above the research work of member firms from the Technical University of West Berlin. The industry notes that it prefers live clients to dead ones but can only sell as much safety as the customer is prepared to buy.

Where the vehicle is concerned in road safety the alternatives are clear: either the state must impose controls or effective public relations work must be done to convince the general public of the need for safety.

(Industriekurier, 20 March 1969)

The new Porsche

Porsche's latest, the 917, is the fastest Porsche ever. It has a 550 hp engine and has a top speed in excess of 200 mph. It has an air-cooled 4.5-litre twelve-cylinder engine and ultramodern styling. Not yet for sale to the general public the 917 is to be built in first run of 25 and once approved by the International motor-racing association will be entered for endurance races.

(Photo: Porsche)

Conceited drivers

According to a survey conducted by Tübingen University department of psychology every other motorist in this country dangerously overestimates his own driving ability. Without giving the matter a second thought fifty per cent of the sample rated themselves good, if not first-rate drivers.

A mere five per cent of those questioned dared to admit that they were probably bad drivers. The remaining 45 per cent reckon their performance is satisfactory.

This exaggerated feeling of superiority, Dr von Klebelsberg told a Karlsruhe meeting of the Road Accident Research Association, is sadly characteristic of this country. No motorists are prepared to admit to being below average. They all think they are a cut above the others, that what happens to the rest could never happen to them. This unjustified subjective feeling of security is the cause of many accidents.

The shortcomings of driving instruction also come in for criticism. Lawyers and traffic experts agreed that a prompt reform is essential. Every driver should from the start be in a position to assess imminent danger immediately and realistically.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 12 March 1969)

Third place for death on road

Driving is most dangerous in Australia, the World Health Organisation has concluded after evaluating road accident statistics from member countries. Even though traffic density in Australia is low 20.3 people die on the roads every year per 100,000 motor vehicles.

Austria and this country come a close second and third respectively, with 28 and 27.9 road deaths per 100,000 cars. In 1966, the latest year taken into account, there were 9.57 million motor vehicles in the Federal Republic and 16,864 road deaths.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 18 March 1969)

Wrecked, aged and teased-out vehicles pile up and pile up

Frankfurter Neue Presse

On average cars in this country reach the ripe old age of nine. At the beginning of the decade the figure was ten. This factor and the rapid subsequent increase in motorisation largely account for the hundreds of thousands of abandoned cars that are causing local authorities such trouble. A new plan drawn up by the Battelle Institute of Frankfurt provides for twenty central collection points for cars that are ready for the scrap heap.

Since the beginning of the sixties the number of cars ready for scrap at any one time has increased sixfold. The export of second-hand cars after about half their life-span is still a negligible factor and brings scant relief. The number of unwanted cars is expected to double again between now and 1980.

The 1,400,000 motor vehicles newly registered in this country last year will have seen the inside of a hydraulic press long before then.

It is none too easy to rationalise the scrap business. Small firms who do much of the wrecking by hand do not make much of a profit and motorists often have to pay for the pleasure of seeing the back of the car they once polished lovingly.

Cars left to rust at the side of the road, and their numbers are on the increase, will eventually earn their owners a fine. Even when the engine and chassis numbers have been filed away the owner can usually be identified.

In view of this unfortunate situation the Bonn Health Ministry commissioned the Battelle Institute of Frankfurt to propose solutions. The suggestion made is for twenty central wreckers' yards in urban areas. As things stand each would have to cut 35,000 cars a year down to manageable sizes.

Mobile presses that could deal with the wrecks before sending them to the depot could make the system an even more economic proposition, but even if each individual car were towed in or pushed up the ramp of a transporter or low-loader each of the twenty depots could make a profit from 150 cars a day.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 14 March 1969)

MODERN LIVING

Gelsenkirchen introduces 'numbering' system

Gelsenkirchen is the first city in this country to "number" its 358,000 inhabitants, using an electronic data bank.

With this method it is proposed to alter and improve considerably the system of registering citizens.

Data bank processes are economical and serviceable in tabulating personal details in alphabetical order as well as in regions. Every person would have a special personal number.

The first seven digits of the personal number would give information concerning the date of birth. The digits from the eighth to the tenth would be used to differentiate between people with the same birthday and also to indicate sex.

The eleventh digit is a reserve digit that can be used for errors and alterations. For instance a number such as 020484000002 would indicate that the holder of this number is male and born on 2 April 1940.

A data bank dealing with material concerning inhabitants of a city or a region can store all the particulars that would be required for official purposes. With the greatest speed it would be possible to check up on statistical details such as how many people there were in a certain age group or how many people lived in a certain area, or a part of a city or in a street or even in one building.

Using a central data bank on citizens' details it would be easier to handle this material for statistical purposes.

Personal details such as name, date of birth and address which have been kept on filing cards until the present will now be transferred to the central bank. It will only be necessary to produce the details for the central bank once. The details will then be available for all departments of local government.

The experiment in Gelsenkirchen will be used for other ends beyond merely registering addresses.

Using this modern method of registering people it will be possible to keep track on income tax returns, electoral rolls and election numbers, when people began to go to school, when people were injected for various illnesses and information that could be used in dealing with problems of town and country planning as well as the economic structure of an area.

The citizens' data bank was prepared by an American firm for Gelsenkirchen in cooperation with Düsseldorf, Hagen and the district of Moers. An association has been set up to handle this communal problem (AKD).

Participants in the overall planning organisation include Bochum, Düsseldorf, Duisburg, Essen, Gelsenkirchen, Hagen, Krefeld, Osnabrück, the district of Moers and the American firm.

The main purpose of the system is to make it easier and more efficient for information concerning the population of an area to be passed on to Federal state authorities, to other local authorities and to Federal government authorities when this is required.

If this experiment proves to be as useful as experts predict it will be the idea will be introduced into other cities and regions in the Federal Republic, although costs will be a governing factor in many areas. This system is not inexpensive.

(DIE WELT, 18 March 1969)

Arabic numerals are to blame!

This proposal is enough to drive self-respecting statisticians to drink! People in this country are to be given a number, twelve digits to encompass all the citizens in the Federal Republic.

Humanists will recall the predictions that George Orwell made in *1984*. They will also remember what Aldous Huyley had to say in *Brave New World* and recall: "The Arabs are to blame. If we had Roman numbers there would be no question of giving people numbers. It would be impossible. Their numbers, the numbers that the Caesars used, did not lend themselves to official tabulations."

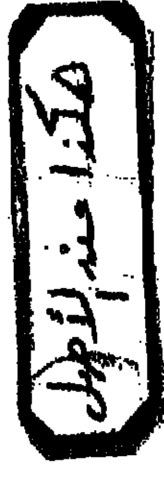
Shortly everyone will have a number and private details will be revealed by a process of addition and subtraction.

One plus one makes three? Here shorn humanity breaks through the rules that are created by the data bank. And officials will be able to choke gloatingly the computers that have governed them.

Reducing the world to a mathematical formula was the brain child of the American futurologist Hermann Kahn. This intelligent American is now just a number himself and it has all come about through the development of computers.

But mankind has only to recall that 46 steps of atomic escalation and the whole world is reduced to a gigantic zero. That would indeed be a splendid number!

(Münchner Merkur, 20 March 1969)





In less than no time!

This Hamburg skyscraper of flats was built in ten months using prefabricated techniques. The highest section is 180 feet high and has 21 floors. Seven other complexes similar to this one have been built in the same Hamburg suburb. This building was completed in a record period of time and it is expected that the first tenants will move in at the beginning of April.

(Photo: dpa)

Shopping out of the rain plan to be tried in Essen

Five hundred shop owners in Essen are anxious to put into practice a plan that has not been tried before. Essen is a very rainy city, perhaps one of the wettest in the Federal Republic, but for almost a year people on the city have intensified their wish to be able to shop "in the dry".

Business people in the city point out that shoppers can drive their cars to the giant supermarkets that are scattered about the outskirts of the city like mushrooms round the bole of a tree and do their shopping without getting wet. Shop owners want to have the city centre covered.

Shop owners in the shopping centres point out that no one is going to go out shopping, window shopping, in the rain. They go on to point out that window shopping is the beginning of business. These business people add that unless something is done they cannot hope to compete with the larger concerns such as supermarkets and chain stores.

The 500 business people in Essen have formed an association that is to study ways and means of covering the city centre so as to attract more people to the centres to do their shopping. A plan has already been devised.

The huge covering that is to go over the city centre must be adequate to meet several eventualities. It must, for instance, be able to bear the weight of snow in winter. Because of the sooty condition of the air in the Ruhr it must be made of material that can be cleaned without too much difficulty, and which when in operation lets the light through. Unless these conditions are met people will have the feeling that they are walking through some endless underground passage.

These requirements have been met by a newly developed synthetic that is strengthened with glass fibre. The roof will be specially designed so as to allow fresh air under the covering material. Unless this were provided for in the design it would be impossible for traffic to pass through the area that is covered by the protective roof.

The shopping centre, however, has had for some time covered pedestrian ways that have been a great help in attracting shoppers to the area.

Costs for the covering have not yet been worked out, but designers expect that they will be in the region of 2,000 Marks for every yard or so of street. This would mean that 500 yards of street screened from the bad weather in this way would cost about one million Marks.

Surprisingly shop owners in the city centre consider this fairly inexpensive. They have been heard to say that they expected to have to pay twice as much for the covering. In any event they expect to recover the outlay in a very short space of time.

To the city authorities of Essen there is no concern as to how much the covering will cost since the shop owners are prepared to take responsibility for the total sum. The plan only needs their appoval. Until now they have had nothing against these proposals.

The planning office from the city authorities have let it be known that if a reasonable design is chosen they will have no objections to the plan.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 14 March 1969)

Wives work to earn more housekeeping

Every eighth housewife in this country tries to increase her house-keeping money by taking on extra work or doing a part-time job.

Pensioners increase their income on average by seven per cent by doing extra work or putting in time on a part-time job.

These facts were recently published in a report issued by a research institute in Bad Godesberg.

Housewives under 35 years of age are just as likely to try to find extra work as are older women. Even in cases when the family move to larger accommodation or when more children come along the woman of the house still tries to find extra sources of income.

Pensioners equally try to improve their incomes no matter where they live — in small communities or in medium- or large-size towns.

(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 14 March 1969)

SPORT

Cross-country car racing introduced

"The track isn't half churned up," Willi Breithauer of Frankfurt muttered as he changed from a Renault 8 Gordini to an R 16 TS. Fountains of mud cascaded as Breithauer, an experienced rally driver, slithered round the course of the first auto cross competition to be held in this country.

Motorists who are not satisfied with squeezing the last ounce of performance out of their cars in rallies, mountain and endurance tests now face the prospect of churning cross country.

Six thousand spectators were there, on a hill near the village of Weiperz, not far from Fulda, determined not to miss the thrills and spills. Heavy rainfall had written of two tracks the organisers, Schlüchtern Motor Sport Club, had intended using.

The village of Weiperz, population 800, came to the rescue at the last minute. For the last three days before the competition took place feverish organisation went into preparing the mile-long course. In the event, the whole meeting had something of a makeshift air.

Few of the races brought thrills. The course was too small and narrow for overtaking. When someone did manage to achieve the feat the spectators, all of whom had braved the cold determined not to miss the sight of cars of all shapes and sizes careering through the mud, cheered delightedly.

The crowd were all for the underdog. Nothing gave greater satisfaction than to see a Volkswagen "Beetle" edging past a car twice its size. In cross-country car racing tyres and driving techniques are what count. Power is less important.

Everything on four wheels took part. The forty competitors ranged from a small delivery van to a Mercedes 230 S. They overtook on whichever side they fancied. Even studded tyres were used by some, though the rules of the sport allow only heavy winter tyres. But then, it was a "first" and teething troubles were bound to occur.

Breithauser's Gordini came to an abrupt halt sideways-on in the first round after an impressive jump. One of the wheels had parted company with the axle. The only other upsets were dents, scrapes and layers of mire.

Anyone who was unlucky enough to have to keep behind another car for any length of time was soon driving by ear. His windscreen was caked in mud.

The spectators, mostly country folk, jumped up and down with delight in their wellington boots, leaving ripples in the pools of muddy water, whenever a Porsche went out of control and stuck fast in the morass.

Two cars started at a time at intervals of thirty seconds. No more than four cars were on the course at a time. Each race covered five laps.

Driving instructor Ewald Pauli, chairman of MSC Schlüchtern, first read about cross country car racing in a newspaper article about a racing event in Austria. After taking a look at a course near Vienna he decided to have a go and sent out invitations.

"To start with," he says, "there was a great deal of enthusiasm, then everyone grew sceptical. On the Monday beforehand I had fewer than ten firm entries." But in the end his old friends did not let him down.

Rally drivers such as Breithauser, Gass and Frey came. So did BMW works driver Hubert Hahne, who drove an English Ford Escort that had been specially prepared for auto cross.

The spectators were not disappointed. In the end young Lothar Weber of Fulda in a 1.9-litre Opel Kadett drive the fastest lap and came home to beat rally ace Hahne in the overall ratings.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 18 March 1969)



Cross-country car racing, which has been popular in Britain for years, was introduced into this country recently at Schlüchtern

(Photo: dpa)

Government support for sport

In lending financial support to the construction of sports facilities within the framework of the Golden Plan Federal government funds are in future to be allotted according to more specific targets.

Minister of the Interior Ernst Benda is to concentrate on three factors:

- As a general rule financial support is to be given only to projects for regional multi-purpose facilities of a sufficient standard to cater for competitive sport., Smaller facilities are to be financed by the states and local authorities.
- The Ministry is to be advised of the shortage of facilities in the vicinity of proposed new grounds, pitches and the like on the basis of the Golden Plan guidelines.
- Before construction work begins the site and size of the project are to be referred to regional planning authorities for comments.

(Handelsblatt, 13 March 1969)

Talented 13-year-old swimmer from Berlin

FIRST MADE NEWS IN SWEDEN IN 1967

When she first hit the headlines at the Linköping, Sweden, European youth swimming championships in August 1967 Marlies Eister of West Berlin was eleven. Born on 13 March 1956, Marlies had joined Nixe Charlottenburg, a well-known club, only two years previously and only started to train seriously a year beforehand.

Although her time of 3 min. 2.8 sec. over 200 metres breaststroke did not even get her into the finals at Linköping's Tinnerbäck baths pundits in both East and West were unanimous in their praise. "A great talent with a great future," they forecast and a week later she reached the finals of the Federal Republic championships at Gruga baths, Essen.

Since then more than eighteen months have passed. Marlies Eister, who a year later at the age of twelve came fifth in the 100 metres and sixth in the 200 metres breaststroke in the national championships in Berlin, has lived up to all expectations so far and can certainly now be rated this country's white hope.

Her best times over these distances in a fifty-metre pool are 1 min. 21.4 sec. and 2 min. 54.8 sec. and her personal bests in a 25-metre baths are 1 min. 17.9 sec. and 2 min. 51.4 sec. respectively. Her 1 min. 17.9 sec. in Bremen already makes her one of the fastest girls in Europe. In 1957 Ada ten Haan's thrilling world record times, it will be recalled, were 2:52.5, 2:51.9 and 2:51.3 sec.

Marlies trains 2,000 to 4,000 metres four times a week. "That is enough for the time being," trainer Dr Ina Peiffer says. Ina Peiffer, a doctor by profession, was herself chairman of the club for seven years.



Marlies Eister — a swimmer to be watched!

(Photo: Schirner)

The present chairman of Nixe Charlottenburg is Gerda Eister, Marlie's mother and once a first-rate breaststroke swimmer herself. Marlies's present aim is a place among the first three at this year's European youth championships, to be held from 15 to 17 August in Vienna. And then?

Dr Peiffer, a member of the competition committee of the Amateur Swimming Association, calmly announces: "Then we are going to train for Barcelona and Munich."

Marlies, five foot six and eight stone nine, who goes to West Berlin's Schiller Gymnasium (grammar or high school), has already swum four times for her country and has every reason to dream of doing well at the Barcelona European championships and the Munich Olympics.

Horst Planert, national coach, will probably promote her from youth to full-scale international this summer.

So the thirteen-year-old whizz kids are not limited to the other part of Germany and the other side of the Atlantic. The only diference is that there are more of them in America, Russia and the other part of Germany.

In this country Marlies Eister is an exception, a gratifying one nevertheless. "Marlies feels best in a team," trainer Dr Peiffer says. "She can also do well when training with the rest of the club. Individual training, which is characteristic of many aces, is not her forte."

Neither national coach Horst Planert nor club trainer Ina Peiffer will hazard any guesses as to what times Marlies Eister may one day clock. So far she has lived up to expectations. The indications are that she will continue to do so.

(STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, 15 March 1969)

Aden	SA $ 0.05
Afghanistan	Af 10.—
Algeria	DA 0.60
Angola	Esc 1.—
Argentina	$ m n 45.—
Australia	10 c.
Austria	S 3.—
Belgium	bfr 6.—
Bolivia	$ b 1.50
Brazil	N. Cr $ 0.35
Bulgaria	Lev 0.05
Burma	K 0.60
Burundi	F. Bu 10.—
Cambodia	R 4.40
Cameroun	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Canada	Can $ —.20
Ceylon	cR —.60
Chile	Esc 0.60
Colombia	col. $ 1.—
Congo (Brazzaville)	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Congo (Kinshasa)	Makuta 7.—
Costa Rica	C 0.85
Cuba	P 0.13
Cyprus	11 d
Czechoslovakia	Kcs 0.50
Dahomey	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Denmark	dkr 0.90
Dom. Rep.	RD $ 0.15
Ecuador	S 2.50
El Salvador	C 0.30
Ethiopia	Eth $ 0.30
Fiji	11 d
Finland	fmk 0.50
Formosa	NT $ 5.—
France	FF 0.60
Gabon	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Gambia	11 d
Germany	DM 1.—
Ghana	cedi 0.12
Great Britain	11 d
Greece	Dr 4.—
Guatemala	Q 0.15
Guayana	BWI $ 0.20
Guinea	F.G. 30.—
Haiti	G 0.65
Honduras (Br.)	$ BH 0.20
Honduras	L 0.25
Hong Kong	HK $ 0.70
Hungary	Ft 1.—
Iceland	Kr 5.—
India	Rs 0.80
Indonesia	Rp. 15.—
Iran	Rl 10.—
Iraq	50 fils
Ireland	11 d
Israel	I £ 0.40
Italy	Lir. 80
Ivory Coast	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Jamaica	11 d
Japan	Yen 50
Jordan	50 fils
Kenya	EAs 0.25
Kuwait	50 fils
Laos	Kip 60.—
Lebanon	P 40.—
Liberia	Lib $ 0.15
Libya	50 Mills
Luxembourg	lfr 6
Madagascar	FM 30.—
Malawi	11 d
Malaysia	M. $ 0.40
Mali	FM 60.—
Mexico	$ 1.50
Morocco	DM —.65
Mozambique	Esc. 1.—
Nepal	Mohur 1.—
Netherlands	Hfl 0.50
Netherlands Antilles	G. ant 0.25
New Zealand	9 c.
Nicaragua	C 0.85
Niger	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Nigeria	11 d
Norway	nkr 0.90
Pakistan	Rs 0.60
Panama	B 0.15
Paraguay	G 15.—
Peru	S. 3.50
Philippines	P. phil 0.60
Poland	Zl. 0.50
Portugal	Esc. 1.—
Rhodesia	11 d
Ruanda	F. Rw 12.—
Rumania	Leu 0.50
Saudi Arabia	RL 0.60
Sweden	skr 0.60
Switzerland	FS 0.50
Senegal	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Sierra Leone	Le 0.10
Somalia	Sh So 0.90
South Africa	Rand 0.10
South Korea	Won 35.—
S. Viet Nam	V.N. $ 15.—
Spain	Pts 8.—
Sudan	PT 5.—
Syria	£ S 0.50
Tanzania	EAs 0.25
Thailand	B 3.—
Trinidad and Tobago	BWI $ 0.20
Togo	F.C.F.A. 30.—
Turkey	T £ 1.25
Tunisia	65 M
Uganda	EAs 0.25
UAR	PT 5.—
Uruguay	P 20.—
USA	$ 0.20
USSR	Rbl 0.10
Venezuela	B 0.60
Yugoslavia	Din 1.—
Zambia	11 d